

Date:	2 September 2002
Subject	NIB appoints new CEO

NIB Health Funds Limited today announced that Mark Fitzgibbon, currently Chief Executive Officer of Clubs NSW, would be the health fund's new Chief Executive Officer.

Mr Fitzgibbon, who replaces former Managing Director Colin Rogers, will take up the appointment on October 9 this year.

Chairman, Mr Keith Lynch today also announced the appointment of Newcastle City Council General Manager, Ms Janet Dore to NIB's Board of Directors.



Mr Lynch said Mr Fitzgibbon had been offered the position after a nationwide executive search that considered candidates from within and outside the private health insurance industry.

"Mark has an impressive record in change management and strategic planning, two areas on which NIB will be focusing as the health insurance industry undergoes a period of significant reform," Mr Lynch said.

"We are delighted to have been able to secure his services and equally delighted that our new CEO has such strong links to the Hunter Region."

Mr Fitzgibbon has a successful record in both the registered clubs industry and Local Government.

Born in Cessnock, he was appointed to his present role with Clubs NSW in 1999 following a career in local government that included terms as General Manager of Maitland City Council, and General Manager of Bankstown City Council.

During his time at Clubs NSW, Mr Fitzgibbon has implemented a new strategic plan for the organisation, modernised and restructured operations and services to members.

Mr Lynch said the changes at senior executive and Board level would assist NIB in positioning itself to take advantage of industry change and to maintain the fund's standing as one of Australia's top health insurers.

"Our new Chief Executive and Board appointments will provide additional expertise that will guide NIB through a period of substantial change in the health insurance industry," Mr Lynch said.

"Janet brings a significant level of managerial expertise and community insight to our policy deliberations and strategic planning," Mr Lynch said.

"She joins another recent Board appointment, Mr Michael Slater, who has already made a significant contribution in areas of financial management and corporate

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governance, which is vital to NIB's operations in today's business climate of rigorous financial accountability.

"It is an appropriate time for NIB to consider its future: we are entering our 50th year of operations in our strongest ever trading position.

"This provides us with a sound financial platform to tackle future challenges, and an opportunity to seek a more active role in shaping the direction of the health insurance industry."

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