

DR RICHARD MATTHEWS AM

Dr Richard Matthews is the Deputy Director-General of the Strategic Development Division at NSW Health.

Until June 2007, Richard carried a dual role as Deputy Director-General and Chief Executive of Justice Health.

He commenced his career in general practice and developed a special interest in drug and alcohol. He has worked for many years at St. Vincent's Hospital Rankin Court Methadone Stabilisation Unit.

His association with Justice Health (previously known as Corrections Health Service) began in 1992 when he assumed responsibility for administration of the Methadone Maintenance Program. In 1993, he was appointed Director of Drug and Alcohol Services for Justice Health, in 1998 Director of Clinical Services, and Chief Executive Officer in 1999.

In his current role at NSW Health Dr Matthews has strategic planning responsibility for Statewide Services Development, Primary Health & Community Partnerships, Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol, Inter-government & Funding Strategies, Chronic Disease, Rural Health initiatives, Child & Youth Health and the national health reform.

On the 14th June 2010 Dr Matthews was awarded the Member of the Order of Australia for service to the health sector through leadership roles in the areas of service development, primary health care, mental health, and drug and alcohol policy.