

Burdekin rescue bid

Steven Deare

MAYOR PURSUES BAIRD'S SUPPORT IN YOUTH PROVIDER FIGHT

WARRINGAH Council will write to the State Government asking for it to fund homeless youth provider Burdekin and review the funding model that has left it teetering.

The council has decided to lobby ministers after Burdekin told the *Daily* it faced closure as a result of unsuccessfully applying for

NSW Department of Family and Community Services funding.

Under a new funding arrangement, Taldumande will provide homelessness accommodation for Lane Cove, Manly, Mosman, North Sydney, Pittwater, Warringah and Willoughby.

Cr Vincent De Luca at a

meeting on Tuesday moved a motion that said the new funding model, which almost saw the loss of Bringa Women's Refuge, now risked Burdekin.

"I don't think this funding model realises the local specificity and importance of services," he said.

"We should call for a prop-

er review of the model and to save this service.

"Let's hope it's recurrent funding, and not for one year."

The motion asks Family and Community Services Minister Gabrielle Upton to review the funding model and ensure smaller community organisations were

not disadvantaged by larger tenderers.

Mayor Michael Regan also wrote to Premier Mike Baird this week asking him to find a solution to the funding issue. Mr Baird met Burdekin representatives last week and said he was "determined" to see the association's work continue.