



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Select Committee on Remote, Rural and Regional Health

MEDIA RELEASE

Inquiry announcement and call for submissions

Committee to look into specific health services and specialist care in remote, rural and regional NSW

Do people in regional and remote NSW have access to the health services and specialist care they need?

The Select Committee on Remote, Rural and Regional Health is investigating whether progress has been made in recent years in improving health services for remote, rural and regional communities.

The Committee has adopted its second inquiry that examines how recommendations made in a [2022 Legislative Council \(LC\) committee inquiry](#) are being carried out. The Committee is inviting stakeholders to make a submission to the inquiry.

This inquiry has a particular focus on the delivery of specific health services and specialist care in regional NSW. It follows from the Committee's work last year, which looked into workforce issues and workplace culture in the regional health system.

"The delivery of specialist care in regional NSW is crucial to ensuring those living in the regions are able to access specific services for their young families, their ageing relatives and those with more complex health needs" Committee Chair, Dr Joe McGirr MP said.

This inquiry will examine services such as:

- Maternity services, obstetrics and paediatrics
- Patient transport and paramedicine
- Indigenous health services
- Mental health services, and drug and alcohol services
- Aged care and palliative care
- Cancer care and oncology
- Other specialist care and allied health services

"The Committee has heard about the recent work to improve the regional health workforce," Dr McGirr said. "Now, the Committee is looking into specialist care areas and the delivery of specific services. We want to know if you've noticed an improvement in these health services or if you think more progress needs to be made."

Submissions close on 12 April 2024. Stakeholders are advised that the Committee's focus is on the implementation of the LC Portfolio Committee No. 2 recommendations in relation to specialist services, and is not seeking submissions that comment on health outcomes more broadly.

Full terms of reference for the inquiry are available on the [Committee's website](#).

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