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MEDIA RELEASE

Committee to hear from stakeholders on proposal to split Hunter New England Local Health District

The Legislative Assembly's Committee on Community Services will be holding public hearings in Narrabri, Tamworth and Sydney this month for its inquiry into the Health Services Amendment (Splitting of the Hunter New England Health District) Bill.

The Committee is travelling to the New England region to hear directly from communities in the Hunter New England Local Health District in Narrabri and Tamworth on 12 and 13 August. The Committee will also hold public hearings at Parliament House in Sydney on 20 and 22 August.

The inquiry is looking at the proposal to split the Hunter New England Local Health District, including potential benefits and risks, and whether it would improve health services in the Hunter and New England regions.

Committee Chair, Mr Clayton Barr MP, said that a high volume of inquiry submissions came from New England residents.

"Narrabri and Wee Waa were the highest represented towns among submissions to the inquiry. We welcome the opportunity to hear the views of local community members on the proposal to split the Local Health District," Mr Barr said.

"The Committee will be hearing from a range of local stakeholders, including community groups, health care providers, local councils, and local businesses."

The Narrabri and Tamworth hearing schedules are available on the <u>inquiry webpage</u>. Committee hearings are a formal proceeding of Parliament. Only witnesses listed on the schedule can take part in the proceedings.

The hearings will be open to members of the public to view, however there will be limited seating available. Anyone interested in following proceedings can watch the live broadcast on the NSW
Parliament's website.

Media contact: Clayton Barr MP, Chair

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New England public hearing venues:

12 August 2025: Narrabri Shire Council Chambers, 46-48 Maitland Street, Narrabri

13 August 2025: Tamworth Jockey Club and Function Centre, 28 Britten Rd, Taminda