

**Submission
No 111**

INQUIRY INTO INTER-REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Name: Mr Peter Paabo

Date Received: 18/05/2012

Re: Jindabyne Public Transport.

I am a 72yr. old Pensioner living by myself in Jindabyne.

Two months ago I visited my Jindabyne doctor about a severe leg pain. The doctor suspected D.V.T. (Deep Vein Thrombosis) so an ultrasound check needed to be done urgently. It could not be done in Jindabyne nor could Cooma hospital do it. Community transport was not available so an ambulance took me to Canberra hospital. Tests found a large blood clot (D.V.T.) from left thigh to ankle. Further tests found large pulmonary embolisms (blood clots in both lungs plus atrial fibrillation of the heart.)

After a week of medication and treatment discharge was a day to day proposition without anything definite. Finally about 10.30am doctors advised I could return home to Jindabyne and be treated by my own doctor, but would need to come back for follow ups.

My endeavours to contact Monara community transport were unsuccessful and due to the short notice it probably couldn't help anyhow. A social worker advised there was a Countrylink coach actually picking up at the hospital at 4pm going to Cooma. I rang Countrylink who faxed a ticket to the hospital. I commend Countrylink for having pick up at the hospital plus faxing ticket to hospital.

Unfortunately at Cooma the coach continues on to the South Coast but not Jindabyne. So at 6.20pm on a cold late autumn evening I was stranded. I had not been able to contact anybody I knew in Jindabyne.

It looked like a night in a hotel and work something out the next day. Fortunately I eventually got through to my neighbour who came and collected me.

In light of the above circumstance and the follow up travels to Canberra I will need a service to and from Jindabyne would be of enormous benefit and help to me.

My main reasons for provision of Countrylink services to Jindabyne.

1/ Bearing in mind community transport is not always readily available when required.

Old age pensioners and retirees need public transport from Jindabyne to Cooma & return for medical reasons.

- a) treatment at Cooma
- b) connection at Cooma or continuation to Canberra for treatment.

2/ Provide old age pensioners and retirees

a) a service to travel for leisure and recuperation.

b) to visit family and friends, either for Christmas or childrens or grandchildrens birthdays. If I catch the Countrylink coach at Cooma and whilst I'm in Sydney I have to leave my car in a side street.

This probably voids my car insurance.

As I am 72 years of age and have serious health problems my long distance driving days will become minimal.

3/ I'm sure an established public transport service covering Jindabyne and perhaps continuing on to Bombala or the South Coast would attract a complete new summer flow of backpackers and tourists to benefit Jindabyne businesses during the quarter summer months.

I'm also sure that apart from myself there would be many others who would love to go by coach to the South Coast occasionally.

Yours Sincerely