

**ACCESS TO TRANSPORT FOR SENIORS AND
DISADVANTAGED PEOPLE IN RURAL AND
REGIONAL NSW**

Organisation:

Name: Mrs Gloria Cotterill

Position:

Date Received: 22 July 2016

RECEIVED
22.7.16

Delegate
NSW 2633
18th July 2016

To whom it may concern,
I am lodging a submission for the "Inquiry into Access to Transport for Seniors and Disadvantaged People in Rural and Regional NSW"

My details are as follows: Mrs. Gloria Cotterill,

Delegate,
NSW 2633

(*) Specific issues.

- I live in a small country town, called Delegate, population of 350, situated on the Southern Monaro, near the Victorian Border, between the coast and the Snowy Mountains.
-
- There is no Public Transport or Taxi service, in Delegate, if you can drive, there is a "Trainlink Service" connecting Bombala to Canberra and Sydney, but what do you do with your car? You can't safely leave it parked on the side of the road for any length of time. You have to rely on the goodwill of friends to take you to Bombala, a distance of 37kms and at the early Coach departure time of 6.50am, you are reluctant to ask the best of your friends to set out on a cold winter's morning with the possibility of fog, -5*frost or even snow, such is our climate, let alone the problem of wildlife, namely kangaroos and wombats on the roads at that time of day.
-
- As I am getting older, (I'll be 80 in October), I am more reluctant to drive long distances, therefore I usually use the Trainlink service, especially to go to my sister's in Wollongong, it used to be an enjoyable service but since the timetable has been changed (last 12months) from a 8am start in Bombala to 6.50am, as well the coach now goes via Jindabyne, extending the journey from Bombala to Canberra, from 2hrs30mins to nearly 4 hrs. Then you still have the train ride to Syney or Wollongong, I usually get to Wollongong around 4.15pm. It makes it a long day.
-
- The coach travelling across from Bombala to Jindabyne has to travel on a sealed road with barely enough room for two vehicles to pass as well as all of the above hazards on a mountainous country road, with little or no mobile phone coverage for most of the way.
-
- For your interest:- Some distances around here.
- Delegate to Bombala....38kms. Bombala to Jindabyne...100kms.
- Jindabyne to Cooma....61kms. Cooma to Canberra....108kms.
- Bombala to Canberra, via Nimmitabel..192kms;
- Bombala to Canberra, via Jindabyne...269kms.
-
- Delegate has an ageing population, although there are some new younger people coming into town taking the advantage of the cheaper housing available here. As the population ages, more

P.T.O.

medical problems surface and it is not a good senario to be sitting on coaches for hours, last February I had to have another stent in my heart, I am a 'borderline' diabetic and the journey home that time was dreadful, I was absolutely exhausted by the time I got to Bombala, then had to get to Delegate, I have been using the Trainlink service for the last 15 years, since my husband died. Then there are some clients who live 17 - 20kms out from the Delegate township, think of the time they have to start out to catch that early coach. It is the only way my friend has of getting to Sydney where her remaining family lives.

-
- The old timetable also allowed the Coach to divert pass the two Canberra hospitals, enabling patients to visit the Doctor, have their check up etc. then rejoin the coach on the return journey, saving them the trouble of staying in Canberra for two nights as service only runs three days a week (Mon/Wed/Fri)
-
- I realise that Jindabyne needs some sort of service, especially in the Snow season, but it shouldn't be to the detriment of clients who have been using the service for years and live in a much more isolated area. Jindabyne seems to have a big voice in getting what it wants, Delegate hasn't a Doctor, we have an MPS (hospital) but can't have acute patients because of the lack of a doctor, so all acute cases have to go to Bombala, Cooma, Bega, or Canberra.
-
- There is another coach comes from the coast, (Eden) which stops for a break at Nimmitabel, around 9.30am, why can't a small bus from Delegate or Bombala run (when there are bookings) to Nimmitabel to meet the Eden coach? Let Jindabyne have the large coach, but give us some form of transport.
-
- There are five 'Disadvantaged houses' in Delegate, those residents need access to transport, let alone all the Pensioners, Seniors etc who reside here as well, many of these seniors live on their own, the prices of houses here are low, so the bind most of us are in, even if you could sell your home you wouldn't have the finances to set up again anywhere else.
-
- You see adverts on the TV all the time about the greatest Metro in the world meaning Sydney, it's about time the rural and country areas of the state had some good things happen for it, we have lost our democratic right to our elected councillors, we are losing population, businesses and services and the feeling in the bush is that no one cares in the government or that wonderful Metro city!
-
- When I came to this area in 1962, there was two football teams, 90 children at the school and numerous shops, now we have a hotel, cafe and a general store/post office. The country towns need help before it is too late.
-

I hope this submission covers the guidelines,

- *Please excuse letter, my computer is playing up.*

*Yours faithfully,
(Mrs) Gloria Cottlell.*

OLD COACH ROUTE
VIA NIMMITABEL
APPROX. 192 kms



I live here