



**Inquiry into health outcomes and access to health and hospital services in rural, regional and remote New South Wales**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

1. That Portfolio Committee No. 2 - Health inquire into and report on health outcomes and access to health and hospital services in rural, regional and remote NSW, and in particular:
  - (a) health outcomes for people living in rural, regional and remote NSW;
  - (b) a comparison of outcomes for patients living in rural, regional and remote NSW compared to other local health districts across metropolitan NSW;
  - (c) access to health and hospital services in rural, regional and remote NSW including service availability, barriers to access and quality of services;
  - (d) patient experience, wait-times and quality of care in rural, regional and remote NSW and how it compares to metropolitan NSW;
  - (e) an analysis of the planning systems and projections that are used by NSW Health in determining the provision of health services that are to be made available to meet the needs of residents living in rural, regional and remote NSW;
  - (f) an analysis of the capital and recurrent health expenditure in rural, regional and remote NSW in comparison to population growth and relative to metropolitan NSW;
  - (g) an examination of the staffing challenges and allocations that exist in rural, regional and remote NSW hospitals and the current strategies and initiatives that NSW Health is undertaking to address them;
  - (h) the current and future provision of ambulance services in rural, regional and remote NSW;
  - (i) the access and availability of oncology treatment in rural, regional and remote NSW;
  - (j) the access and availability of palliative care and palliative care services in rural, regional and remote NSW;

- (k) an examination of the impact of health and hospital services in rural, regional and remote NSW on indigenous and culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities; and
- (l) any other related matters.

#### **Committee membership**

<b>The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC</b>	Australian Labor Party	<i>(Chair)</i>
<b>The Hon Emma Hurst MLC</b>	Animal Justice Party	<i>(Deputy Chair)</i>
<b>The Hon Lou Amato MLC</b>	Liberal Party	
<b>Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC</b>	The Greens	
<b>The Hon Wes Fang MLC</b>	The Nationals	
<b>The Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC</b>	Liberal Party	
<b>The Hon Walt Secord MLC</b>	Australian Labor Party	