



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

Hon Greg Donnelly MLC	Australian Labor Party	<i>Chair</i>
Hon Emma Hurst MLC	Animal Justice Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
Hon Lou Amato MLC*	Liberal Party	
Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC	The Greens	
Hon Sam Farraway MLC**	The Nationals	
Hon Wes Fang MLC	The Nationals	
Hon Chris Rath MLC***	Liberal Party	
Hon Walt Secord MLC	Australian Labor Party	

* The Hon Lou Amato MLC substituted for the Hon Trevor Khan MLC from 22 June 2021 to 6 January 2022.

** The Hon Sam Farraway MLC is a participating member from 25 March 2021 for the duration of the inquiry.

*** The Hon Chris Rath MLC replaced the Hon Shayne Mallard MLC as a substantive member of the committee from 29 March 2022. The Hon Shayne Mallard MLC replaced the Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC as a substantive member of the committee from 25 January 2022.