

Supplementary
Submission
No 3a

INQUIRY INTO DENTAL SERVICES IN NSW

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Theme:

Summary



HAY SHIRE COUNCIL

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The Director
Standing Committee on Social Issues
Legislative Council
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Macquarie Street
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Inquiry into NSW Dental Services

Hay Shire Council would like to make the following suggestion to the inquiry into dental services in New South Wales.

There appears to be a serious imbalance in the distribution of dentists in NSW with the situation deteriorating the further west you go. The situation in the far west of the state is critical.

The Council believes that there would be merit in declaring dental positions in those western towns unable to attract a dentist, or sufficient dentists, as "area of need" positions. This would enable suitably trained overseas dentists to be recruited to fill the void when sufficient dentists are unavailable or not prepared to live and practice in the more remote regions.

I am aware that currently *area of need* applies only to medical practitioners but there does not appear to be any valid reason why it could not be extended or a similar scheme introduced to cover dentists.

Yours sincerely,

Bob Behl
General Manager