

**Submission  
No 55**

**INQUIRY INTO HEALTH OUTCOMES AND ACCESS TO  
HEALTH AND HOSPITAL SERVICES IN RURAL,  
REGIONAL AND REMOTE NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Mr Wiliam Jones  
**Date Received:** 25 November 2020

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My submission is in regard to the Wellington District Hospital, it's lack of nursing staff, doctors and the pending consideration of closing the hospital down.

I myself have had to spend time in Wellington Hospital on several occasions and sadly I have always considered that they are grossly understaffed.

We have some excellent doctors here in Wellington but again they are grossly understaffed and overworked, and at present the waiting time to see a doctor is 3 to 5 weeks. which means that if you need urgent medical attention Wellington Hospital is the only alternative and again, understaffed, one doctor over worked and if he is there the waiting time to see him is ridiculous. Of course there is Dubbo base hospital some 52 kilometres away and it's impossible to get there by car under 30 minutes.

Recently I hurt my back and I was incapable of walking so an ambulance had to be called at 2.30am to take me to the hospital at Wellington. However it was not until 6 hours later was I able to see the doctor in the meantime I was in excruciating pain. I am 83 years old and quite frankly it is grossly unfair that others in the same age bracket should have to be subjected to such conditions.

I am asking that Health services in and around the town of Wellington be improved with more finance, more nursing staff and certainly at the very least one resident doctor. I thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Faithfully  
Will Jones