

Submission  
No 159

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

**Name:** Name suppressed  
**Date Received:** 8 December 2020

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Partially  
Confidential

Dear Parliament and representatives,

My husband and I moved from Sydney to Gulgong NSW 16 years ago with our two young children. We selected this country town as it had all the things we needed like health services, schools, employment and shops for supplies.

Over these 16 years we have seen an increase in residents, school numbers, variety of businesses services, and tourists throughout our region. The one thing that has declined significantly is our hospital service.

With our increasing numbers and relatively close proximity to Sydney we should be able to employ a doctor in our hospital. Funding needs to be provided to our country hospitals to support and encourage doctors to want to practise at regional hospitals. Not just Gulgong hospital but all regional hospitals.

Why are the city based hospitals overloaded with experienced doctors and students and not shared across the health services within NSW and Australia. Our teachers and police force are employed throughout their training in various regions to enable resources to be spread around our region and not concentrated in one are, why are we not doing the same with our health care professionals?

How is a doctor supposed to treat a patient via video link in a serious emergency. Also, why are ambulance services not able to transfer a patient to the most appropriate hospital? Australians are a hard working nation, it doesn't matter what profession you are in, and we all pay taxes wherever you live.

Why are Gulgong and regional country town hospitals without a face to face doctor when our country towns are only growing in size (especially post COVID). Our country regions should not have to fight for a doctor to remain in our hospitals, it should be mandatory!!

We request more funding and support for places other than the city areas as our population extends to far more country than this!

Please listen to the public voice and hear our concerns.