

Submission  
No 533

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

**Name:** Name suppressed  
**Date Received:** 15 January 2021

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Partially  
Confidential

I live in Gunnedah. I have lived here for nearly 10 years and have 3 young children.

Over the years I have lived here, at times it has been difficult to get doctors appointments for my children. However, the situation at the moment is dire. We have a very limited number of doctors for the size of our town and surrounding villages. I feel it is unacceptable that so many people are being forced to travel to Tamworth for basic health care. Gunnedah is a wonderful town to live in and I don't understand why doctors can't be found to work here. I am also highly disappointed that pathology is now being sent to Tamworth.

This apparent cost cutting measure is a massive step backwards for the town. So much money has been spent upgrading the hospital and maternity ward, and mothers may soon not be able to give birth here due to this decision. I hope that this decision will be reviewed, and hospital management should be held accountable to the community.

I feel they do not have the community's best interests at heart.