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MEDIA RELEASE

Extension of closing date for submissions on cross-jurisdictional health reform and government consultation with remote, rural and regional communities

The Select Committee on Remote, Rural and Regional Health has extended the closing date for submissions to its current inquiry until **Friday 15 November 2024**.

The Committee is examining the implementation of recommendations made in a 2022 Legislative Council (LC) committee report, and is currently focusing on recommendations that require the NSW and Australian governments to collaborate on health reform. The Committee will also review progress made on recommendations that involve government consultation with regional communities to improve local healthcare.

"The Committee is calling on stakeholders to make a submission so that we can understand what improvements have been made since the 2022 LC report", said Dr Joe McGirr MP, Committee Chair.

"We are extending the deadline by two weeks to ensure that people have enough time to prepare a submission. The Committee encourages all interested health care professionals, organisations and individuals with experience in regional health issues to contribute to this important inquiry".

The inquiry will examine:

- cross-jurisdictional cooperation between the NSW Government and Australian Government, including in relation to primary health
- collaboration between NSW Health and Australian Government bodies on particular initiatives, services or training programs
- NSW Government consultation with health stakeholders and communities in remote, rural and regional NSW, including improving communication and developing place-based health plans
- NSW Government action to prioritise the health of regional communities in government decision-making
- any updates or final observations relating to the progress of implementing any LC Portfolio Committee No. 2 recommendations that the Committee has considered in its previous inquiries.

Submissions close at 5pm, Friday 15 November 2024.

Stakeholders are advised that the Committee's focus is on the implementation of the LC Portfolio Committee No. 2 recommendations, as outlined in the <u>terms of reference</u>. The Committee is not seeking submissions that comment on remote, rural and regional health more broadly. Full terms of reference for the inquiry are available on the Committee's <u>webpage</u>.

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