

**Submission
No 12**

**THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE No. 2
RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO CROSS-JURISDICTIONAL HEALTH
REFORM AND GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION WITH REMOTE, RURAL AND
REGIONAL COMMUNITIES**

Name: Mr Matthew Baskerville

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Since the 2022 things have gone backwards.

Gulgong NSW has no doctor in town or at it's MPS.

I believe Coolah NSW is the same.

Dunedoo did have a GP but I'm not if they still do now.

Mudgee NSW has seen a rapid increase in population but a decrease in GP's.

Both medical clinics in Mudgee have now closed the books to new patients due to concerns about GP's not being able to adequately care for current patients.

Gulgong NSW has been advertising for a doctor for a number of years without success.

The NSW Government needs to urgently address the issue of attracting doctors to regional areas. Incentives need to be considered immediately using funding from Minerals Royalties that are obtained from the Mudgee area along with funds from the renewable energy schemes currently being developed.

Incentives could include healthcare workers housing, increased regional bonuses, put in place regional scholarships with 5-10 year regional placement requirements in exchange for university course fees/costs & refund HECS for all regional people training towards healthcare qualifications that commit to regional areas or already work in healthcare in a regional area.

Without increased incentives it's difficult to see things changing for regional areas & new doctors will just stay in Eastern areas of NSW that offer better facilities for them + their families.