



Leslie Williams MP
Parliamentary Secretary for Regional and Rural Health

Ms Faith McCallum

Email: [REDACTED]

Our ref M18/2694

Dear Ms McCallum

Thank you for your email to the Hon Brad Hazzard MP, Minister for Health and Minister for Medical Research, regarding the service planning requirements for the establishment of new ambulance stations. Minister Hazzard has asked me to respond.

I acknowledge the reasons that prompted you to write and appreciate your concern for the health needs of the Tocumwal community.

Mr Dominic Morgan, Chief Executive, NSW Ambulance, has advised that NSW Ambulance monitors factors such as changes in demographics and population growth when planning for future service provision. While the size of a town and its growth are taken into consideration, proximity to existing services and general ambulance coverage are also significant factors in the planning process.

In Tocumwal, a NSW Ambulance Community First Responder program operates in partnership with Fire & Rescue NSW, which is supported by the nearby ambulance stations at Finley and Berrigan. This program is dispatched to an emergency to provide urgent first aid prior to the arrival of paramedics.

Mr Morgan has further advised that existing services in the area are expected to adequately support the projected level of demand for Tocumwal into the future.

Thank you again for bringing your concerns to the Minister's attention. If you would like more information, please contact Dr Katie McMaster, Service Planner, NSW Ambulance, on 9779 3811.

Yours sincerely

Leslie Williams MP

- 6 JUN 2018