## A Every Second Counts Tocumwal needs an Ambulance Service

Tocumal Lions Club Ambulance for Tocumwal Steering Committee Po Box 110 Tocumwal NSW 2714

12th July 2020

Hon Brad Hazzard MP Minister for Health & Medical Research GPO Box 5341 Sydney, NSW 2001

Dear Minister Hazzard,

I am writing to you to thank you for meeting with us on the 26th February. We greatly appreciate the time you gave us, and the serious manner with which you addressed our concerns.

Brian Jackson from Ambulance NSW visited Tocumwal on the March long weekend, and saw first hand the influx of tourists our town receives on a regular basis. We hope he was also able to view the level of traffic on the busy Newell Highway. In terms of heavy vehicles that are electronically monitored, the Berrigan Shire Newell Highway border crossing at Tocumwal is currently the 6<sup>th</sup> busiest out of 19 LGAs along the Highway. Almost 32,000 heavy vehicles travel through the Berrigan Shire each day.

It should also be noted that Tocumwal is the only town in NSW on the Newell Highway with a population over 1000 that does not have an ambulance station.

We understand how incredibly busy you are at the moment, as Australia attempts to address and lessen the impact Covid19 is having on all of us. However we also believe that devastating events such as this provide yet another reason why providing Ambulance infrastructure to towns such as ours should absolutely be a priority.

I have included the link to a short video our Committee has produced containing statistics on Tocumwal. We hope you find it enjoyable and informative. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SwpfxQAuevk&t=2s</u>. We have also recently created a Facebook page <u>Tocumwal Ambulance Steering Committee</u>.

Thank you again for your time and consideration in this matter, and we hope for positive feedback and advice on moving forward, from your Office in the near future.

Sincerely,

Faith McCallum

Secretary - Tocumwal Lions Club Ambulance for Tocumwal Steering Committee