



BAROOGA | BERRIGAN | FINLEY | TOCUMWAL
Heart of the Southern Riverina

Ref: KE:KM

27 April 2023

The Honourable Ryan Park MP
Minister for Health and Regional Health
GPO Box 5341
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear The Hon. Ryan Park MP

Tocumwal Ambulance Station – Request for Review

I am writing to request a review of the report into the requirement for an ambulance station to be established in Tocumwal. I have attached the original report for your information.

The report that went to Minister Hazzard in 2020 suggested Tocumwal would need an ambulance station by 2030 according to the statistical data used at the time. The report also indicated that reliance on First Responders was very high at the time of writing. A review of the situation was promised annually to allow for possible population fluctuations.

The Berrigan Shire is currently experiencing growth of approximately 8% year on year. Our community of Tocumwal is the fastest growing of the four communities and has a number of large scale developments being touted for commencement in the coming year. It is quite likely Tocumwal could therefore double in size in the coming 5-10 years.

With this in mind Berrigan Shire Council believe it is time to review the findings of the attached report. We are happy to provide the information we have on growth projections if that will help such review.

Incentivisation of Health Study

Berrigan Shire Council applauds decision to incentivise study in the area of health to match that offered by Victoria. It is concerning for border communities however that both Victoria and NSW are placing caveats on that incentivisation that requires graduates to work only in NSW or Victoria.

As part of a considerable border community, this works against the experience of border communities and all the hard work to recognise them during the pandemic.

Berrigan Shire Council therefore asks that special consideration be given to border communities where those who have studied in one State my work on either side of the border. This consideration

is especially important for our community where many study in Melbourne prior to returning to our area. Equally, many students from Victoria who live close to Albury, may choose to study in the opposite State. Incentivising with such strict rules disadvantages border communities and we are sure that is not the intent of the program.

Should you require future information regarding either of the above mentioned matters, I would be happy to meet with you, or provide that information if it is of assistance.

Should you require further information on either of the matters discussed above, please contact our CEO, Ms Karina Ewer on telephone [REDACTED] or email [REDACTED] or myself on [REDACTED] or email [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely



Matthew Hannan
MAYOR – BERRIGAN SHIRE COUNCIL

