



31 October 2024

The Hon Ryan Park MP
Minister for Health
Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Minister,

Please find attached correspondence from [REDACTED] and 8 other [REDACTED] regarding the issue of termination of pregnancy services within Southern NSW local Health District.

I have recently submitted a representation on behalf of [REDACTED] and GP Obstetricians in the Eurobodalla.

The provision of abortion services is complex clinically and access is significantly affected in rural and regional areas.

This problem involves women with unwanted pregnancies, pregnancies complicated by fetal abnormality, and late missed miscarriage.

In 2021, there were 1468 births to women within Southern NSW district of residence.

Queanbeyan District Hospital has specialist Obstetricians, GP Obstetricians, specialist Paediatric cover, and specialist prenatal diagnostic services.

The local health service should be able to provide women with individualised abortion services involving medical or surgical options, as well as conservation or expectant management.

[REDACTED] indicates that there is inconsistency between management's decision and the framework for termination of pregnancy in NSW, as well as absence of a local clinical protocol aligned to the framework.



Office: 122 Carp Street, Bega NSW 2550 **Mail:** PO Box 37, Bega NSW 2550

Phone: (02) 6492 2056

Email: Bega@parliament.nsw.gov.au



The current restriction of termination of pregnancy services leads to increased psychological trauma inflicted on women in this difficult circumstance and as pregnancy management is time limited increases the risks to women due to delay in management.

[REDACTED]

1. *An urgent review to hold rural LHDs accountable for establishing a local framework for these services.*
2. *Clarification from the Ministry of Health to rural LHDs that all hospitals Level 3 and above who provide Dilation and Curettage for miscarriage also have capacity to provide surgical termination of pregnancy and remove the power of the executive or board to block surgical termination of pregnancy.*

I anticipate your response on this serious matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Michael Holland'.

Dr Michael Holland MP
Member for Bega



Office: 122 Carp Street, Bega NSW 2550 **Mail:** PO Box 37, Bega NSW 2550

Phone: (02) 6492 2056

Email: Bega@parliament.nsw.gov.au