Regional Health Plan 2022-2032

Guiding the next decade of regional, rural and remote care in NSW.

Our Vision:
A sustainable, equitable, and integrated health system delivering outcomes that matter most to patients and the community in regional NSW.

Our Values:

- **C**ollaboration
- **O**penness
- **R**espect
- **E**mpowerment

PRIORITIES	KEY OBJECTIVES
Priority 1: Strengthen the regional health workforce: Build our regional workforce; provide career pathways for people to train and stay in the regions; attract and retain healthcare staff; address culture and psychological safety, physical safety, and racism in the workplace.	• **Promote rural generalism** for allied health professionals, nurses and doctors • **Prioritise the attraction and retention** of healthcare professionals and non-clinical staff in regional NSW • **Tailor career pathways for Aboriginal health staff** with a focus on recruitment and retention • **Expand training and upskilling opportunities** to build a pipeline of regionally based workers • **Enable and empower staff to work to their full potential** by accelerating changes to scope of practice whilst maintaining quality and safety • **Nurture culture, psychological and physical safety** in the workplace and build positive work environments that bring out the best in everyone
Priority 2: Enable better access to safe, high quality and timely health services: Improve transport and assistance schemes; deliver appropriate services in the community; continue to embed virtual care as an option to complement face-to-face care and to provide multidisciplinary support to clinicians in regional settings.	• **Improve local transport solutions and travel assistance schemes**, and address their affordability, to strengthen equitable access to care • **Deliver appropriate services in the community** that provide more sustainable solutions for access to healthcare • **Leverage virtual care** to improve access, whilst ensuring cultural and digital barriers are addressed • **Enable seamless cross-border care and streamline pathways to specialist care** ensuring access to the best patient care regardless of postcode • **Drive and support improved clinical care, safety and quality** for patients in hospitals and other settings • **Align infrastructure and sustainable service planning** around the needs of staff and communities and to enable virtual care
Priority 3: Keep people healthy and well through prevention, early intervention and education: Prevent some of the most significant causes of poor health by working across government, community, and other organisations to tackle the social determinants of health; prepare and respond to threats to population health.	• **Address the social determinants of ill health** in our communities by partnering across government, other organisations, and community • **Invest in mental health** and make progress towards zero suicides • **Invest in maternity care and early childhood** intervention and healthcare to give children the best start in life • **Promote early intervention and prevention** of chronic disease, including a focus on complex health and social needs • **Prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from the health impacts of epidemics, pandemics, natural disasters** and other challenges to population health
Priority 4: Keep communities informed, build engagement, seek feedback: Provide more information to communities about what health services are available and how to access them; empower the community to be involved in how health services are planned and delivered; increase responsiveness to patient experiences.	• **Encourage choice and control over health outcomes** by investing in health literacy, awareness of services and access to information • **Engage communities through genuine consultation** in design of services and sustainable local health service development • **Support culturally appropriate care and cultural safety** to address and prevent discrimination in health settings • **Capture patient experience and feedback** and utilise these insights to improve access, safety and quality of care • **Improve transparency of NSW Health decision-making** and how it is perceived and understood by patients and the community
Priority 5: Expand integration of primary, community and hospital care: Roll out effective, sustainable integrated models of care through collaboration between Federal and NSW Government to drive improved access, outcomes and experiences.	• **Develop detailed designs for expanded primary care models** and trial their implementation in regional NSW through working with the Commonwealth • **Address the employer model** to support trainees to work seamlessly across primary care, public, private settings and Aboriginal Controlled Community Health Organisations to deliver care to regional communities • **Improve access and equity of services for Aboriginal people and communities** to support decision making at each stage of their health journey • **Develop 'place-based' health needs assessments and plans** working closely with Primary Health Networks, Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services and other local organisations
Priority 6: Harness and evaluate innovation to support a sustainable health system: Continue to transform health services through aligned funding and resourcing models, digital and health technologies, research and environmental solutions.	• **Align funding and resourcing models** to provide the financial resources to deliver regional health services and health outcomes • **Implement digital health investments** to deliver connected patient records, enable virtual care, provide insightful health data and streamline processes • **Undertake research and evaluation** with institutions, industry partners and consumers and carers • **Commit to environmental sustainability footprint** for future regional healthcare