

Inquiry into the Use of School Buses in Rural and Regional Victoria

Ms Debra Fowler

Organisation Name: Numurkah Community Learning Centre

Your position or role: Manager

YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

As a community organisation, we have often found a large gap in the ability of our marginalised groups to move throughout the district to access services and activities. This is largely due to a limited public transport service which is directed at moving people to large towns and centres. These services do not provide a timely or useable timetable, nor do they allow for people utilise more local providers for their needs. School buses in our region move through many small communities. It stands to reason that people other than school children could make use of this. While we understand the necessity of ensuring the safety of our children by maintaining the school service for children only, there is a huge potential for utilising the buses in the hours between dropping off and picking up children. Providing opportunities for our community to access local services would positively impact the mental health and well being of many isolated people and at the same time enhance the connection between local service providers and community.

Numurkah Community Learning Centre provides low cost training and hobby activities for the community, along with accredited adult education. There are people who cannot access local and small classes due to lack of transport. This would open up opportunities for participation.

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:

File2:

File3:

Signature:

Deb Fowler