

NCOSS Pre-Budget Submission 2018-18

The Southern NSW Murrumbidgee Picture

Children and young people

- 16% children live below the poverty line.
- 23% young people aged 12-17 are overweight or obese.
- 65 in every 1000 children were involved in risk of significant harm report.

Housing and homelessness

- 322 people per 100,000 are homeless.
- Over 10 years wait time for social housing in Henty, Moama, Coleambally and Urana

Aboriginal communities and the justice system

- 41% of people incarcerated in Southern NSW Murrumbidgee region are Aboriginal.
- In 2016, 7.2% of Aboriginal people convicted of a driving offence in NSW were from the Southern NSW Murrumbidgee region.

Energy and the cost of living

- Across most of regional NSW, average market electricity bills are \$275 higher than those covering Sydney.
- The Cost of Living Report showed that average annual bills for low income people in the Sydney metropolitan area were \$1448, when across the rest of the State they were \$1602, with average bills in the west/central west of the State \$2656. ¹

Mental health

- 13.2% people aged over 16 years experience high or very high psychological distress.

Disability

- The rate of profound or severe disability across the Southern NSW Murrumbidgee region (5.1%) is higher than the state average of 4.9%.

¹ These figures were obtained before a 20% increase in retail prices, and are based upon levels of usage that are at or below what is needed to maintain a basic standard of healthy quality of life.