

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Education - Regional Strategy](#)  
**Subject:** response to regional strategy  
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Hello,

A few comments about the report....

- A. 1. Continue to expand options – the medical course in Albury / Wodonga is an excellent example of this.
- A. 2. Real and strong links needed with universities. E.g. Year 10 students spend several days at a regional tertiary institution where they participate in lectures and practical sessions. Students from the uni, visit schools and conduct tutorials with students.
- B. 3. The independent youth allowance is really valuable. Our kids experienced delay and lots of red tape to access it, despite being clearly eligible. Make it easier to apply for and get.
- B.4. Support accommodation services. The model that operates at Kew Student Residence is ideal. Please check it out as it works! Students there are happy, settled and stay at uni! (and it is affordable)
- B. 5. Cater for students who don't just like to get drunk. Have heard some disturbing stories about alcohol abuse and pressure to have sex. Some kids are shy – use a range of approaches to engage them such as small group activities.
- C. 6. A challenge when very few parents have a tertiary education and schools have low expectations of students. Careers counsellors are often untrained. A difficult one, but start by selecting strong school leaders who can look beyond NAPLAN data and really believe that all students can achieve and many more can go to university that do so currently. Strong leaders engage parents and raise their expectations. Select school leaders that encourage students to undertake challenging subjects that increase opportunities (e.g. languages, physical sciences and higher level maths) rather than easier subjects. (Their thinking is that it is easier for students to obtain higher study scores by doing easier subjects, which improves their data) Getting rid of the publishing of simplistic data such as naplan and study scores and replacing it with more meaningful and more complex data such as uni participation / pass rates / career outcomes. We need more doctors / lawyers / business people / artists etc... in regional and rural areas.
- C.7. The scholarships available support a fairly narrow range of students and good potential students miss out.
- C8. Pass
- C9. By running courses that fit in with local needs. For NE Vic this is probably things like Health, Agriculture, Tourism, Business.
- C10. Some students see regional universities and second rate. If you get them there, they realise that this is not the case. So see A2.
- C11 As C10. E.g. AT CSU, many students come from cities but once they experience things, they decide to stay rather than transfer to city campuses.
- C12; unsure
- C13; unsure

cheers,

Darrell Perkins

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