

I wish the enquiry to consider the needs of rural students. Many of these students do not live within an hour of a university and so in order to attend university must live away from home, adding to the burden of families. There are no choices for them. It is either live away from home, or not go to university – and if they cannot afford the living costs it means they will miss out on opportunities for further education.

As to the two years gap – this means that rural students will now be further behind – delaying any education and resultant employment by another 12 months. Why do our students need to be further disadvantaged?

I hope that you take these two points into account,
Leslie Casey