



THE SENATE

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT
REFERENCES COMMITTEE**

10 February 2023

Dear authorised deposit-taking institution

**Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee – Inquiry into bank
closures in regional Australia**

On 8 February 2023 the Senate referred the matter of closures of regional bank branches to the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee. The inquiry will cover the scope of discovering the reasons for these closures and the impact they are having on people in the regions.

We write to you to respectfully ask that your institution postpone any further closures of regional branches until the conclusion of the inquiry in December of this year. I am sure you understand that this is essential to the integrity of the Inquiry and will help mitigate any negative effects these closures may be having.

We also note that some of the recommendations of the Regional Banking Taskforce are not set to be implemented until the second half of this year. Closures of regional banks prior to these recommendations coming into effect would not be an example of good faith by the banking sector.

I thank you for your cooperation and I know you will do everything you can to assist in this Senate inquiry.

Yours Sincerely,

**Senator the Hon Matthew Canavan
Chair**

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