The Accord should prioritise the importance of a sustainable and equitable funding model for higher education that supports access and attainment. When compared to metropolitan universities, regional universities service vastly different student cohorts with historical characteristics of inequity and disadvantage. Similarly, the social charter, thinner regional markets (very small class sizes which means less revenue, but same or higher expenses) the often costly associated business models of regional universities is vastly different to that of metropolitan universities. This could either increase the cost of regional study, or see regional Universities close their doors. This will either deter regional students, or force online education. Local access to education and training, delivering a wide variety of courses is important for perspective students and regional workforce development needs, which in turn provide services for the people of our local and regional communities. Regional Universities are the central hub for retention and social interaction for not only the 18 to 25 demographic The importance of regional universities remaining comprehensive teaching and research universities, to ensure the communities we serve continue to thrive. Current government funding provide universities with regional subsidies of 5% for Rockhampton and 10% for Mackay, Townsville and Cairns. Under this funding model it encourages regional based Universities to remain in operation, despite potentially less dense classrooms or availability of students. Regional universities are important and significant contributors to regional economies, through the introduction of international student, retention of 18 to 25 year olds, and the employment of not only academic staff, but support staff and administration. As an individual who can attribute two Diplomas, a bachelor, and my future masters degree on regional tertiary education, I can vouch for the importance of these regional hubs and the support, education, and opportunities it avails.