

Portfolio Committee No.2 – Health – Budget Estimates Supplementary Hearing
Responses to supplementary questions
Health – 27 October 2022 (Q22/599)

Questions from Mark Buttigieg MLC (on behalf of the Opposition)

Tomaree Community Hospital

1. Is it true that Tomaree Community Hospital is run by 'Community and Aged Care Services' within the Hunter New England Local Health District?
2. How many hospitals with emergency departments are run by 'Community and Aged Care Services' within the Hunter New England Health District?
 - (a) Please provide a list of these hospitals.
3. How many NSW hospitals with emergency departments are run under an identical or similar arrangement as Tomaree Community Hospital, with respect to being run by 'Community and Aged Care Services' or similar?
 - (a) Please provide a list of these hospitals.
4. What category of hospital is Tomaree Community Hospital?
 - (a) Please list other hospitals in Tomaree Community Hospital's category.
 - (b) Please indicate whether any of these hospitals are run by 'Community and Aged Care Services' or a similar structure within other LHDs.
5. Is the Minister aware that many ordinary hospital policies do not apply to Tomaree Community Hospital due to the fact it is run by 'Community and Aged Care Services'?
6. Is Tomaree Community Hospital required to convene Morbidity and Mortality meetings?
7. On what date was the last Morbidity and Mortality meeting held regarding Tomaree Community Hospital?
8. If a patient presents to Tomaree Community Hospital with indications they have suffered a stroke, are the clinical staff able to connect with the John Hunter Hospital stroke unit for clinical advice?
9. If not, why not?
10. If a stroke patient at Tomaree Community Hospital is transferred by ambulance to the John Hunter Hospital, are they required to present to the Emergency Department once again before being admitted?
11. If yes, why?
12. Why is Tomaree Community Hospital excluded from BHI data?
13. Has the Minister seen data which compares the number of emergency department presentations at Tomaree Community Hospital to other hospitals in the HNELHD, and which also details the number of doctors and nurses employed to manage these presentations?
14. Do you share the genuine concerns within the Port Stephens community regarding the governance arrangements at Tomaree Community Hospital and its emergency department?
15. Tomaree Community Hospital being run by 'Community and Aged Care Services' has been described by a Port Stephens health professional as a "historical anomaly that is no longer fit for purpose." Will you commit to ensuring Tomaree Community Hospital and its emergency department are run under ordinary hospital governance arrangements?

ANSWER:

I refer the member to the response provided at Portfolio Committee No. 2 - Health – Budget Estimates Supplementary Hearing – 27 October 2022 – question on notice taken on page 25 of the uncorrected transcript (Q22/592).