



## **Joint Select Committee on the Royal North Shore Hospital**

### **THE ROYAL NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL - REPORT**

The Revd the Hon Fred Nile MLC, Chairman of the NSW Parliament's Joint Select Committee on the Royal North Shore Hospital, announced the tabling of the Committee's report today.

The inquiry was established following concerns about aspects of patient care at Royal North Shore Hospital, including the treatment of Ms Jana Horska, who had a miscarriage in the Emergency Department at RNSH last September. The Committee received more than 100 submissions over the course of the inquiry and heard evidence from 79 witnesses over four days of hearings in November 2007.

Revd Nile expressed his gratitude to the former patients of the hospital or their families for participating in the inquiry. 'The willingness of individual patients or their families to recount their difficult experiences has been an important first step in addressing the concerns about the management and operation of the Royal North Shore Hospital'.

According to Revd Nile, some of the problems identified during the course of the inquiry include the lack of a clinical services plan to guide resource allocation in the Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service (NSCCAHS), a disconnect between the management of the NSCCAHS and clinicians, and an unacceptable tolerance of workplace bullying.

Revd Nile said 'There is an urgent need to recruit more nurses to fill the 100 vacancies and to increase the number of hospital beds to meet patient needs, provided there are nurses that can care for those extra beds. The report includes 45 recommendations designed to overcome the challenges faced by the hospital. We are confident that if implemented, these recommendations will ensure RNSH reclaims its reputation for excellence in clinical care.'

**Revd Nile will hold a media conference in the media room at Parliament House at 12 noon on Thursday 20 December.**

Copies of the Committee's report can be downloaded from [www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/royalnorthshorehospital](http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/royalnorthshorehospital), or can be obtained from the Committee secretariat by calling (02) 9230 2412.

**For comment please contact Revd the Hon Fred Nile MLC,  
Committee Chairman, on (02) 9230 2478.**