

Submission

No 80

INQUIRY INTO THE ROYAL NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL

Name: Dr Leslie Woollard

Balo Street Medical Pty Ltd T/A
BALO STREET MEDICAL CENTRE
ACN 001603658

Dr L.A. Woollard M.B., B.S. (Melb), D.A. (Lond), D.R.C.O.G. (Lond) F.A.C.R.R.M (P/N 311963T)
Dr P.J. Whitnall B.Sc. (Med), M.B., B.S., F.A.C.R.R.M F.R.C.S. (Edin), F.R.A.C.S.(P/N 100562Y)
Dr P.G. Mahoney M.B., B.S. (Lond), D.Obst. (Auck), M.R.C.P. (UK) F.A.C.R.R.M., F.R.C.P (Edin) (P/N 256503T)

PO Box 690
MOREE NSW 2400
Ph: 02 6752 2600
Fax: 02 6752 4041
Email: bsmc@balostmedical.com.au

7/11/2007

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
COMMITTEES**

9 NOV 2007

RECEIVED

The Director
Joint Select Committee on the
Royal North Shore Hospital
Parliament House
Macquarie St
Sydney, NSW 2000

Attention: Rev. Hon. Fred Nile MLC

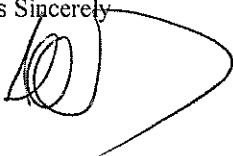
Dear Rev. Nile,

Thank you for your letter of the 31st October 2007 requesting a submission to your enquiry. The RDA NSW wishes to make the following brief points:

1. This lady, whilst having an unfortunate outcome, was very fortunate to have had her miscarriage in a hospital with a maternity unit in Sydney.
2. 50% of maternity units in rural NSW have closed in the last decade. Therefore many women in rural NSW do not have any access to any maternity services, be it a maternity toilet or otherwise. In a town such as Cobar, this means that women are 2-3 hours away from their nearest maternity unit.
3. The average age of GP Obstetricians required to deliver babies in rural NSW is now in their mid 50s, as is the average age of rural midwives. There is no adequate training of a new workforce to replace these workers as they retire in the next 5-10 years.
4. It appears the government is very concerned with a single episode at the Royal North Shore while it continues to largely ignore the destruction of maternity services in rural NSW.

I enclose some graphs and statistics for your information.

Yours Sincerely



DR LESLIE A WOOLLARD

Year	Obstetricians	anaesthetists	obstet units	deliveries
1994	257	128	67	7208
1995	261	131	67	6817
1996	246	131	62	7343
1997	228	127	61	6826
1998	222	119	58	6826
1999	212	118	57	6794
2000	195	115	54	6158
2001	167	105	49	5679
2002	141	98	45	5000
2003	135	99	42	4966
2004	123	94	37	4363
2005	122	89	35	4308
2006	123	88	35	4715

Year	Obstetricians	anaesthetists	obstet units	deliveries
1994	257	128	67	7208
1995	261	131	67	6817
1996	246	131	62	7343
1997	228	127	61	6826
1998	222	119	58	6826
1999	212	118	57	6794
2000	195	115	54	6158
2001	167	105	49	5679
2002	141	98	45	5000