

**INQUIRY INTO OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF
THE NORTHERN BEACHES HOSPITAL**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 9 July 2019

Partially
Confidential

Dear Director,

I started to write my submission regarding the impact of the removal of services from Mona Vale to Northern Beaches Hospital and realised it was going to be a very long epistle. I wanted to write about our previous long and vigorous fight in 2009, when the Maternity Unit was moved to Manly for three years until our petition of 11,000 signatures and protest at Macquarie Street. I wanted to tell you about my time as a patient when the Mona Emergency department staff saved my life. I felt you needed to know about the lead-up to the move, how Healthscope's Deborah Latta came and gave short, corporate PowerPoint presentations at 'update meetings' over a 1-2 year period and we were told she would not be taking questions. How the nursing managers were brainwashed at separate meetings so that, if we questioned them they told us we had to 'remain positive' 'not be negative' (that was if we asked about equipment, policies, procedures, staffing-ANYTHING!).

This is only a fraction of what I would like to tell you. Is there an opportunity to sit down with someone and talk? I was, and still am, a registered nurse and midwife.

After a lifetime of nursing and midwifery to try to operate a department in those circumstances was dangerous. I am NOT 'faint-hearted',

I have been quite 'low' at times about the way I finished but have been volunteering at another hospital and that helps a little. If someone does have the time to talk and listen please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kindest regards,