

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

**Name:** Ms Barbara Kendall

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My main focus is (f) impact of the hospital on surrounding communities.

I make this submission from the perspective of being

- \* a patient at NBH in the first six weeks
- \* a resident of Newport
- \* a recently retired local GP

The preparation of the hospital was inadequate. This inadequacy reflects the underlying aims of the private part of the partnership: to maximise profits.

An example of this occurred to me in A&E where I presented with a broken leg. I was told they weren't sure they had any plaster left for my backslab. I questioned why the director of A&E hadn't prepared for this. I was informed that he had been asking for supplies for six months but had not received them.

The hospital is situated too far from much of the northern beaches which it was meant to service. It took close to 2 hours from the time an ambulance was called for me at Palm Beach until I was delivered at the hospital. The cost of the ambulance would have been prohibitive to anyone not privately insured. The hospital is not much closer to the northern beaches than RNSH and Hornsby hospitals. This is evidenced by the fact that it is drawing people from those areas as well as the northern beaches.

The people of the northern beaches need and deserve, a reasonable level acute facility at Mona Vale.

Yours sincerely  
Barbara Kendall  
(MBBS Hons)