

INQUIRY INTO OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE NORTHERN BEACHES HOSPITAL

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The closure of Mona Vale Hospital for absolutely no credible reason has left the residents of the Northern Beaches without a nearby Emergency Department, Maternity Unit, Paediatric Unit and Operating Theatres. We now have to travel further and wait longer for surgery via a one lane road (Wakehurst Parkway) known for flooding, delays and accidents. Instead we have been offered a Private Hospital ,Northern Beaches Hospital, that has had nothing but bad publicity and complaints since opening and has failed us time and time again. Public patients are on long waiting lists for elective surgery. It is simply not good enough.

The stories of distressed patients, many of them elderly as is the demographic of the Northern Beaches, are growing daily. Cuts to ambulance services mean longer waits and greater costs in transportation to Emergency at the Frenchs Forest Hospital.

I request that the Parliamentary Inquiry investigates this situation and expose the extent of the problems and REOPEN MONA VALE HOSPITAL.