

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 23 July 2019

Partially
Confidential

My husband and myself live in Palm Beach, approximately 15 minutes drive from Mona Vale Hospital.

We are very happy that the Northern Beaches Hospital has been built, and hopeful that the litany of problems since its opening, can be resolved soon.

However, our major concerns are that this new hospital is, firstly, privately run, and secondly, has been opened at the expense of the loss of both Mona Vale and Manly Hospitals.

It makes no sense to have closed the maternity, surgery and importantly, emergency departments at Mona Vale.

Anyone who has ventured north of the Wakehurst Parkway will know that it is the only road in and out of the northern peninsula, and during inclement weather, often floods and is unpassable.

Removing emergency services from Mona Vale Hospital effectively exposes all residents north of the Wakehurst Parkway to a perilous situation should there be an emergency.

We have timed the trip from our home to the Northern Beaches Hospital, and it is 40 minutes on a good day!! Let alone at peak hour or if the Wakehurst Parkway is flooded and one has to travel via Mona Vale Rd instead.

We are in our 60s and 70s and fear that as we get older and possibly face a medical emergency, this additional time could be the difference between life and death. Not to mention the younger residents who may end of giving birth on the side of the road, or children having an anaphylactic reaction to a tick or spider or snake bite (these three creatures live in abundance on the peninsula).

So we implore the commission to use common sense and reinstate the three vital services which we have lost at Mona Vale Hospital.

Thank you
Yours sincerely