

**Submission  
No 132**

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

**Name:** Ms Shirley Phelps

**Date Received:** 29 July 2019

---

21 July, 2019

The Director  
Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health  
Parliament House  
Macquarie Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam

I am very disturbed at the reduction of health services in the Pittwater area resulting in a significant loss of accessible and quality local medical care so the following is a list of my concerns:

- . We have lost our Emergency Department
- . We have lost our Emergency Department.
- . We have lost our Paediatric Unit to which many of us remember those anguished but mercifully short dashes for medical help.
- . We have lost our operating theatres. We now have to travel further and wait longer for surgery. One resident had a nine month wait for a colonoscopy as a public patient whereas at Mona Vale Hospital the wait as a public patient had never been any longer than 4 weeks.

The Avalon Ambulance Station appears to be deserted and being used as a parking bay. Cuts to ambulance services means longer waits and greater costs in transportation to Emergency at Frenchs Forest hospital.

The sad stories being told of parents having to transport children as far as Westmead and Randwick in urgent cases and elderly people being sent home too early when they are living alone are too many to list but no doubt will arise at the enquiry.

Yours sincerely

Shirley Phelps OAM  
President  
NORTHERN BEACHES INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE