

**Submission  
No 123**

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

**Name:** Olwyn Sayers

**Date Received:** 6 July 2019

---

I refer to the enquiry you are presently conducting.

I wish request Mona Vale hospital not be demolished but be re-opened offering vital services to the northern beaches residents.

I was admitted to Mona Vale Hospital Medical and Assessment Ward last May. Scans, ultrasounds X-rays and pathology were onsite to assist doctors in reaching my diagnosis and treatment. I knew if I had required more specialist treatment I would have been transferred to a specialist hospital but I was able to return home within 48 hours (knowing if I deteriorated at home I was only 15 mins away from hospital. Why can't this arrangement be continued?

I have lived in Avalon since 1971 and my 3 daughters were born there. We have so many more young families living on the northern beaches I believe a maternity unit should be available at Mona Vale. Babies and mums experiencing extreme difficulties could if necessary be transferred to specialist hospitals as they have in the past but for normal deliveries like mine it was reassuring to know I could be at Mona Vale hospital in a short period of time.

I would also like to see the Children's Ward reinstated at the old hospital. More complicated cases could be transferred to specialist hospitals as was previously the case. It is such a long way up Mona Vale Road for a woman in labour to travel to the new hospital.

As I get older I am becoming anxious about the time it could take to reach Northern Beaches Hospital. I would have to ring an ambulance to get there in a reasonable time and I do not believe the ambulance service can cope with the high demand, distance to travel and number of vehicles available for all the residents (especially in this area of the peninsula).

Thank you for considering my request.