

**Submission
No 5**

**INQUIRY INTO CURRENT AND FUTURE PROVISION OF
HEALTH SERVICES IN THE SOUTH-WEST SYDNEY
GROWTH REGION**

Name: Mr Greg Warren MP

Date Received: 28 February 2020



Greg Warren MP

SHADOW MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT
SHADOW MINISTER FOR VETERANS
SHADOW MINISTER FOR WESTERN SYDNEY
MEMBER FOR CAMPBELLTOWN

Inquiry into current and future provisions of health services in the South-West Sydney Growth Region
Parliament of NSW
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

To whom it may concern,

As the Member for Campbelltown, I feel it is imperative that I make a submission regarding the inquiry into current and future provisions of health services in the South-West Sydney Growth Region.

My wife Simone and I have had extensive experience with the local health system since we moved to Campbelltown in the 1990s.

Both our boys – now teenagers – were born at Campbelltown Hospital and have relied on the local health system in the subsequent years.

While the effort and dedication of nurses, doctors and staff can never be questioned, the support and resources offered to those staff – particularly at Campbelltown Hospital – falls well below community expectations.

Demand on the hospital – and the rest of the local health system – far outweighs supply and there is only so much staff, doctors and nurses can do.

Emergency department waiting times continue to blow out while positions – like a full-time clinical psychologist for the hospital's adolescent mental health unit – remain unfilled for more than two years.

The NSW Liberals and Nationals have had nine long years to address these issues but have failed miserably and it's the community of Campbelltown and the wider Macarthur that have paid the price for that neglect and incompetence.

The population of the Macarthur region (consisting of Campbelltown, Camden and Wollondilly) is expected to eclipse 600,000 people in 2036 – more than double the 2016 population of the region.

I acknowledge the upgrades of Campbelltown Hospital are currently underway, however the issue is not bricks and mortar – it's people.



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A new, modern hospital is useless unless the adequate number of nurses, doctors and staff are employed to ensure the hospital functions as efficiently and effectively as possible.

I fear once complete, the new hospital will be a gigantic mass characterised by empty hallways, understaffed wards and vacant rooms.

Staff numbers are far from adequate now and I am extremely sceptical the situation will be any different in the future while the Liberals and Nationals remain in government.

An efficient and effective local health system really is a matter of life and death.

The lives of residents in Campbelltown and the wider Macarthur are in the hands of the NSW Liberals and Nationals.

It's time they realised that and acted accordingly.

Greg Warren MP
Member for Campbelltown