

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

Name: Ms Penny Hunstead

Date Received: 6 July 2019

Dear Director ,

I submit that the medical and surgical services that Mona Vale Hospital has been providing for the people of the northern beaches, be restored.

As a resident of Newport, since the 1960s, I have never heard a criticism of services provided at the old Mona Vale Hospital. The staff and the services they provided were such a valued entity in the northern beaches community.

It is shocking that children under 12 years of age, from Palm Beach to Manly will have to go to Royal North Shore Hospital, Westmead or Prince of Wales Hospital, to receive the treatment that was previously available to them at Mona Vale Hospital (or Manly Hospital). The huge expansion of housing in the Warriewood Valley will see large numbers of young children sent to hospitals, far away from where their parents can visit them.

A number of the services that were previously available to all residents of the northern beaches, are no longer available at the new Northern Beaches Hospital. There are many stories of people not receiving necessary emergency treatment at the Northern Beaches Hospital, because the services that needed were not available. Mona Vale Hospital has never turned people away.

It is a sad day for people when they lose the essential services of a good hospital.

Yours faithfully,

Penny Hunstead