



DR sophie scamps MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR MACKELLAR



Dear ,

This week marked a major milestone for our community, with Northern Beaches Hospital officially transitioning to public management under NSW Health.

This change follows years of community concern about understaffing, unsafe workloads, and operational issues under the former private operator, Healthscope, which went into receivership last year.

The transition will deliver a boosted health workforce, including more nurses to meet the mandated staff-to-patient ratios, bringing NBH in line with all other NSW public hospitals. We will also see additional junior medical officers across various departments, such as including Emergency, Geriatrics, Anesthetics, and Ear, Nose and Throat.

Importantly, there will be expanded public access to services that have only previously been available to private patients. This includes interventional cardiology, urology procedures, oral and maxillofacial surgery, orthopaedics robotic medicine, upper GI and colorectal procedures, and for the first time, the establishment of a thrombolysis service for stroke patients, which our community has demanded for a long time.

There will also be an expansion of ophthalmology, strengthening of the special care nursery, and enhancement of sexual assault, child protection and domestic violence services. I am particularly pleased there will be improved mental health support with the integration of acute hospital and community-based mental health services, and improved access to the Northern Sydney Local Health District Perinatal and Infant Mental Health and Eating Disorders services.

A planned upgrade to the mental health Short Stay Unit will include provision of single rooms with improved privacy and safety, enhancing mental healthcare for adults and adolescents.

The 14-month transition period will see the hospital operate under an interim model while the NSW Government finalises long-term arrangements for private services. This will ensure continuity of care for all patients, which must be the priority.

I want to sincerely thank the hospital staff, clinicians, patients and community members who have worked tirelessly and courageously to achieve this outcome – particularly those who shared their experiences and kept fighting for change.

This has been an enormous journey for our community and the transition process won't be without its hurdles, but having a new public hospital with co-located private services is a huge win for our community. I will continue to ensure the people of the Northern Beaches have access to safe, high-quality care.
Best wishes

- *Dr Sophie*

[Watch my interview here](#)

[Read my media release here](#)

Get in touch

If there is an issue you would like to raise with me or something our electorate team can help you with, please email Sophie.Scamps.MP@aph.gov.au. Also, don't forget to follow me on social media via [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

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