

## No: minister. Peninsula snubbed again

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Health Minister Carmel Tebbutt visiting Westmead Hospital. No such luck for us.

NEW State Health Minister Carmel Tebbutt has followed in the footsteps of her predecessors in failing to meet with local clinicians and MPs on the northern beaches.

Since last October, doctors Stuart Pincott and Michelle Franks, along with Liberal MPs Brad Hazzard, Rob Stokes, Mike Baird and Jonathan O’Dea, have repeatedly sought to have the health minister visit to discuss the proposed hospital at Frenchs Forest. In September they hand-delivered a letter to then minister John Hatzistergos, making yet another request. This was passed on to Ms Tebbutt when she took over the role later that month.

While the person at the helm has changed, the government’s overall position has not, with a spokesman acting on behalf of Ms Tebbutt telling the group she “is not able to meet at this time to discuss the project”.

Mr Hazzard said it was as if the northern beaches didn't exist. "The latest three health ministers have taken a completely dismissive approach where they don't want to know that there are people living north past the Spit Bridge," he said.

Mr Hazzard said it was pathetic that the Deputy Premier and health minister flicked a letter requesting a ministerial meeting to her deputy general. "It is a basic lack of human civility."

Ms Tebbutt did not respond to questions from The Manly Daily.