

I, Joanne Beedie, of
in the State of Western Australia, am the promoter of this petition which contains
4792 signatures.

The New Women and Babies Hospital Location

To the President and Members of the Legislative Council of the Parliament of
Western Australia in Parliament assembled. We the undersigned ...

in support of Miracle Babies Foundation and Helping Little Hands, request that the
Legislative Council call on the Health Minister and the WA Government to urgently
reverse the decision to build the new Women and Babies Hospital at Murdoch, a site
20km from Perth Children's Hospital and not co-located with a tertiary paediatric
hospital. Miracle Babies Foundation is Australia's leading organisation supporting
premature and sick babies, their families, and the hospitals that care for them and
Helping Little Hands is a Western Australian based organisation providing services
and advocacy for families of premature and sick babies. We believe it is best practice
for a jurisdiction to co-locate at least one tertiary maternity and neonatal service with
a tertiary paediatric service. This can only be implemented in Western Australia by
co-locating the new Women and Babies Hospital and Perth Children's Hospital to
ensure the best possible care, health outcomes and service delivery for premature
and sick babies and their families. Co-location would allow for coordinated
multi-disciplinary antenatal, birth, and neonatal care for families and their babies.
There would be no unnecessary patient movement, separation of mothers from their
babies would be minimised, improved safety derived from the continuity of care and
reduced ongoing direct and opportunity costs both for the health system, care
providers and families. For our sickest and smallest babies and their families, any
travel to receive urgent lifesaving treatment is associated with increased mortality
and morbidity. Without co-location of the two hospitals, there is likely to be increased
death and life-long disability rates of our most vulnerable babies. A new Women and
Babies Hospital, co-located with Perth Children's Hospital, is an opportunity to
provide the current national and international standard for organising perinatal
services but to also become a global leader in care and achieve the best health
outcomes for WA's most vulnerable babies and their families. It is unacceptable that
the opportunity to co-locate the services is not exploited. Therefore, we urge the
Premier and Health Minister of the WA Government to reconsider this decision as a
matter of urgency and co-locate the new Women and Babies Hospital and Perth
Children's Hospital for better care and improved outcomes.

And your petitioners as in duty bound, will ever pray.