



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Miss Nuttall

Addressed to: Ms Hughes

In relation to: Local Hospital Network Costs and VMO costs in 2024-25

Hearing: 11 November 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript pp 15-16

Transcript provided: 14 November 2025

Answer Due: 21 November 2025

MISS NUTTALL: A supplementary, if that is all right?

So on page 83, of the Canberra Health Services Annual Report, it says that while employee expenses are seven per cent ahead of the original budget, supplies and services are up 27 per cent or \$171 million. What proportion of that was VMO costs?

Ms Hughes: I would have to do the maths offline to get the VMO costs for you. VMO costs themselves were up about— I can give you the exact numbers. I think it was about \$11 million over the previous year in 24-25.

MISS NUTTALL: Okay.

Ms Hughes: So the big increase, the really big increase, at the beginning of 24-25 was in agency nursing. And that has been significantly reduced.

MISS NUTTALL: Thank you.

THE CHAIR: Would you like that question taken on notice?

Ms Hughes: Yes.

MISS NUTTALL: Yes, please. If that is all right.

Ms Hughes: Yes, we can get the details.

Ms Stephen-Smith: Yes, we will take that on notice. Thank you.

OFFICIAL

Ms Stephen-Smith MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The total spend on Visiting Medical Officers in 2024-25 for Canberra Health Services was \$90.8 million, an increase of \$13.2million (17 per cent) over the 2023-24 spend of \$77.6million.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:



By the Minister for Health, Rachel Stephen-Smith

Date:

1/12/25