



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING  
Mr Johnathan Davis MLA (Chair), Mr James Milligan MLA (Deputy Chair), Mr Michael Pettersson MLA

**Inquiry into ACT Budget 2021–22**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**20 October 2021**

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QToN No - 30

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Asked by Ms Jones on 20 October 2021: Mr Dave Pepper took on notice the following question(s):

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In relation to:

Where we are up to in those internal governmental processes in relation to the recent death at the secure mental health unit, Dhulwa including what has been achieved and what is yet to be achieved.

Minister Davidson: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

The death has been referred to the Coroner by ACT Policing. The Coroner's team has not asked Canberra Health Services (CHS) staff for statements.

CHS requested a copy of the post-mortem report from the Coroners team, and to date this has not been received. Without the post-mortem report, CHS has not been able to determine the cause of death to assist their internal investigations.

CHS completed a Rapid Incident Assessment within five days of the death.

The death has been referred to the CHS Clinical Review Committee (CRC).

The death has also been referred to the CHS, Mental Health, Justice Health and Alcohol and Drug Services (MHJHADS) Morbidity and Mortality (M&M) Committee and the review is underway.

The CRC and M&M committees are Quality Assurance Committees (QAC). The investigations and reviews conducted by a QAC must comply with the stringent secrecy provisions set out in the *Health Act 1993*.

All recommendations from clinical incidents, including deaths, are tabled at the MHJHADS Governance Committee and are reported on, on regular basis to ensure recommendations are completed.

The CRC recommendations are tabled at the CHS Recommendations Review Panel. It is this Committee's responsibility for agreeing or not agreeing if a recommendation can be closed based on evidence provided.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing

Signature: *Emma Davidson*

Date: 30 OCT 2021

By the Minister for Mental Health, Emma Davidson MLA