



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2023-2024

Mr Mark Parton MLA (Chair), Ms Jo Clay MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Michael Pettersson MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS

Asked by **MS LEANNE CASTLEY MLA** on 27 July 2023: Chief Minister Andrew Barr took on notice the following questions:

[Ref: Uncorrected Hansard Transcript 27 July 2023 [PAGE 33]]

In relation to:

MS CASTLEY: Yes. I am wondering if you have heard reports or can you confirm whether there has been a code yellow at the North Canberra Hospital, which according to CHS documents, means that is an internal disaster, in the last 24 hours?

Mr Barr: No. I am not the health minister, so I would not be advised of that.

MS CASTLEY: Would you be able to come back to the chamber by the end of this session with information about that?

MR BARR: No. I do not think so, no. I will take that on notice.

CHIEF MINISTER BARR: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

A Code Yellow had not been called in the 24 hours prior to 27 July 2023 at Northside Canberra Hospital. A Code Yellow was called on 25 July 2023.

A Code Yellow is activated in the event that an internal incident or emergency may affect service delivery including electricity supply loss, ICT system disruption, hazards, staffing or capacity issues.

The internal incident that activated the Code Yellow at North Canberra Hospital was related to a high level of service demand with pressure on inpatient bed capacity, and a simultaneous arrival of multiple acutely ill patients that drew heavily on Emergency Department resources.

Instances of inpatient capacity pressures are not unique or uncommon to the ACT or Australia.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2023-2024

Signature: 

Date: **17.8.23**

By Chief Minister, Andrew Barr MLA