



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Health

Reference: Health - Canberra Health Services

Hearing: 11 November 2025

In relation to: Women's health and gynaecological services

Question received: 19 November 2025

Answer Due: 26 November 2025

What is the progress of the expansion of public gynaecological services in the ACT, including the hiring of more staff at the Canberra Endometriosis Centre?

MINISTER STEPHEN-SMITH MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The ACT Government continues to make solid progress in expanding public gynaecological services, including strengthening capacity within the Canberra Endometriosis Centre (CEC). A surge approach remains in place, with focused efforts to reduce wait times and improve service access. A dedicated Project Officer is assigned to the CEC until February 2026, and an extension for an additional six months is being considered to continue driving this work—particularly in managing waitlists and improving data reporting.

Patient engagement and multidisciplinary care have been significantly enhanced. Twice-weekly patient workshops are ongoing, supported by a multidisciplinary team comprising an Endometriosis Nurse, Physiotherapist, Psychologist, and Dietitian.

Workforce capability has also increased. Two nurses have now completed the Australian College of Nurses course in Endometriosis and Pelvic Pain, and nurse/physiotherapist follow-up appointments have commenced as part of the established care pathway. Two psychologists are now permanently involved in delivering patient group education sessions for those experiencing endometriosis and pelvic pain.

Further work is underway to strengthen clinical resources and research. An ethics application is in progress to support the Project Officer and Endometriosis Nurse in converting the initiative into a formal research project. Additionally, a handout for persistent pelvic pain is being developed for use in both Emergency Department and Antenatal Ward presentations.

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Collectively, these initiatives demonstrate ongoing progress in expanding gynaecological services in the ACT and improving care for people experiencing endometriosis and pelvic pain.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:



Date:

27 / 11 / 25

By the Minister for Health, Rachel Stephen-Smith