



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 ON NOTICE

Ms Elizabeth Kikkert: To ask the Minister for Mental Health

Ref: : Justice Health, Output 1.2, Budget Outlook page 55, 'Key Relationships'

Hearing Date: 21 July 2023

In relation to: Winnunga, Justice Health and ACTCS Relationship

- 1) Has the conflict between Winnunga, Justice Health and ACTCS that was observed by both the Auditor General and the Inspector of Corrections been resolved yet? What needed to be resolved and how has it resolved?
 - a. If not, what is being done to resolve it and what has been done to respond to the relevant recommendations from the Auditor General and the Inspector of Corrections?
 - b. How has the conflict affected the provision of healthcare at the AMC?
- 2) Does the Minister disagree that there is any conflict between Winnunga, Justice Health and ACTCS that interferes with the provision of health services at the AMC?

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

- 1) ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) and Canberra Health Services (CHS) are committed to working collaboratively ongoing with Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health and Community Services (WNAHCS) in the provision of healthcare services to detainees at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC).
 - a. ACTCS, CHS and WNAHCS have re-established a three tier operational and clinical governance structure, in which oversight and leadership is provided to drive the implementation of strategic priorities regarding the delivery of health services to detainees at the AMC. The governance structure also ensures communication processes are clear and support an effective and collaborative working relationship between the three organisations. In addition, the three organisations are transparently reporting on agreed key performance indicators and have worked collaboratively to develop a strategy focused on the health and wellbeing of detainees at the AMC. These initiatives, amongst others, have contributed to the closure of numerous recommendations made by the Auditor General and the Inspector of Corrections.
 - b. Any perceived conflict is not known to have impacted on the provision of healthcare at the AMC.

All three organisations continue to resolve issues as they arise in the course of usual operations and governance structures. These issues are not known to have impacted on detainee health outcomes.

- 2) ACTCS and CHS endeavour to engage with WNAHCS to resolve issues as they arise during usual operations and via established governance structures, such that if there were conflict it would not interfere with the provision of health services at the AMC.

The development of the ACT Detainee Health and Wellbeing Strategy reflects the commitment of all three responsible agencies to further the health, wellbeing and other related outcomes for all detainees.

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

Signature: 

Date: 17 August 2023

By the Minister for Justice Health, Emma Davidson MLA