



Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2021-2022 **ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

Asked by **MR JONATHAN DAVIS MLA** on 1 November 2022: MS KALENA SMITHAM took on notice the following question(s):

Reference: Hansard uncorrected proof transcript 1 November 2022, Page 7

In relation to: Nursing-midwifery to patient ratios:

- 1) What was the net increase of nurses recruited over the last financial year?
- 2) How many nurses-midwives left the organisation in the last financial year?
- 3) How many nursing-midwives were recruited?
- 4) How many additional bodies was that on the floor?
- 5) How many positions are currently vacant?
- 6) Can the above information be provided for Allied Health Staff as well?

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

The net increase is reflective of paid headcount reported for the pay periods 7 July 2021 to 22 June 2022. The net increase in nursing and midwifery staff during this time at Canberra Health Services (CHS) was 226 nurses and midwives (this includes all levels) and 14 health professionals.

During the 7 July 2021 to 22 June 2022 pay periods, 1,072 nursing and midwifery staff and 199 Health Professional Officers commenced at CHS. During that same period 700 nursing and midwifery staff and 198 Health Professional Officers separated.

Current systems do not provide the level of detail required to be able to breakdown the number into direct and indirect patient facing roles. To retain registration clinicians must maintain minimum amounts of clinical time and their roles may have responsibility for both clinical and non-clinical activities.

As of 30 September 2022, there were approximately 130 permanent full time equivalent nursing and midwifery vacancies across acute inpatient areas. Due to the operational structure of Allied Health, CHS is unable to advise the number of vacancies across all allied health professions.

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

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'R. Stephen-Smith', written over a horizontal line.

Date:

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By the Minister for Health, Ms Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA