



Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2022-2023

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

Asked by **MS LEANNE CASTLEY** on 16 November 2023: **DR GRANT HOWARD** took on notice the following questions:

Reference: Hansard uncorrected proof transcript 16 November 2023 [PAGE 49]

In relation to: Gynaecology/oncology services

- 1) How many surgery hours does the Gynaecology Oncology surgeon get?
- 2) How many women are still needing to travel to Sydney?

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

- 1) Commencing in November 2023, Canberra Health Services (CHS) provides 16 hours of gynaecology operating time per four-week cycle, which is double the previous amount of operating time.
- 2) CHS is unable to provide a figure outlining how many women are still travelling to Sydney. This data would take considerable resources to collate and may not be reliable.

However, the expanded ACT Gynaecology Oncology service is being delivered in a phased approach and the aim is to provide access to treatment in Canberra for all women of the ACT and surrounding region who require it. In phase one of the service, women whose clinical complexity requires it, or women who may choose to do so, will continue to go to Sydney, to receive treatment at the Royal Hospital for Women (RHW) in Randwick, St George Public Hospital or St George Private Hospital.

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

Signature:

Date: 29/11/23

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