



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2022-2023

Mr James Milligan MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair),
Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Asked by **MR JAMES MILLIGAN MLA** on 23 August 2022: DAVE PEFFER took on notice the following question(s):

Ref: Hansard Transcript 23 August 2022 PAGE 86-87

In relation to:

- Was there a tender process for the Cardiology Review?
- What was the process of engaging Ms Deegan to lead the Cardiology Review?
- How much did the Cardiology Review cost?

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

- Ms Barbara Deegan is employed by Ashurst Lawyers, a legal firm that is on the ACT Government panel of providers of legal services. The panel was established through a competitive process.
- In line with these panel arrangements, Canberra Health Services (CHS) contracted Ashurst via the Division of Medicine Executive Director, following consultation with People and Culture, ACT Government Solicitors and the Professional Standards Unit.
- Ms Deegan was appointed on the basis that she was an immediately available, Canberra-based former Commissioner of the Fair Work Commission and the Tasmanian Industrial Relations Commission, and therefore a sufficiently skilled person to deal with a complex workplace matter.
- The total cost of the CHS Cardiology Preliminary Assessment was \$51,529.25 (including GST).

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023

Signature:

Date:

6/9/22

By the Minister for Health, Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA