



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Mr Emerson

Addressed to: Ms Zagari

In relation to: Health Infrastructure and Procurement of Equipment Using Donor Funds

Hearing: 11 November 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript p 44

Transcript provided: 14 November 2025

Answer Due: 21 November 2025

THE CHAIR: Onto a new line—we are up to me—about procurement and procurement of equipment within CHS. I understand that in June 2023, the Newborn Intensive Care Foundation approved \$117,000 in funding to purchase an Angel Eye camera system, which still has not been procured by CHS. I was told that this follows other similar occasions where the cost of equipment has escalated from an agreed funding amount during the time it has taken to carry out the procurement process, which has made these sorts of fundraising activities a kind of not redundant, but effectively might—an official is being waved over.

Ms Stephen-Smith: Yes, I was just seeing where the question went.

THE CHAIR: Yes. Are you able to walk me through, you know, why this is the case?

Ms Wakefield: I guess for AngelEye, it is digital health that are leading the procurement of that. We have some clinicians from the neonatal intensive care sitting on that, so the specific delays, I cannot speak to, but except that we are working with them to continue that procurement to deliver that for us.

THE CHAIR: And are you aware of this having been an issue in other situations where third-party funding is received to procure a particular piece of equipment, and then the procurement process takes such a long time that that funding is not sufficient?

Ms Wakefield: Not specifically, no. I cannot.

Ms Zagari: So I am not aware of circumstances that specifically relate to equipment. I think that there has been an instance where funding has been raised in the capital space, and the time taken and/or the total cost of the project has then been more sizeable than was originally projected, and we have had to seek additional funding either from government or from donors, but I am not aware of that happening in the equipment space, with the exception of this one where the complexity of

the digital integration has driven that, but will get a timeframe update from Digital Canberra as required.

Mr Rattenbury: Okay. You are able to provide that on notice?

Ms Zagari: I will take it on notice.

Mr Rattenbury: Might you also, you know, if there are any other instances in the last five years of this sort of thing having happened? I think it could be interesting.

Ms Zagari: For donor funds for equipment, specifically where the equipment purchased, because of a lag time, has increased in price?

Mr Rattenbury: Yes.

Ms Zagari: Thank you.

Ms Stephen-Smith MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Neither CHS Procurement nor Canberra Hospitals Foundation are aware of any other instances of donor funded equipment purchases where cost estimates have increased significantly due to delays in procurement processes.

It should be noted that the increase in costs associated with the AngelEyes equipment purchase relates more to an amended scope for procurement than delays with the procurement process, as the initial funding request related only to the equipment (cameras) and did not factor in digital integration costs of linking them to a new system.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:



By the Minister for Health, Rachel Stephen-Smith

Date:

26 / 11 / 25