



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Mr Johnathan Davis MLA (Chair), Mr James Milligan MLA (Deputy Chair), Mr Michael Pettersson MLA

**Inquiry into ACT Budget 2021–22**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**20 October 2021**

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QToN No – 06

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Asked by Mr Davis on 20 October 2021: [Minister Davidson] took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript [25 October 2021] [PAGE 33-35]]

In relation to:

What is Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health and Community Services at the AMC funding for the forward years?

[Minister Davidson]: The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:–

I thank the member for their question.

To support the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees at AMC there is a need to provide a holistic and culturally appropriate health care for those detainees. The Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health and Community Services (Winnunga) service provision at the AMC commenced in 2019 as a result of recommendation 5 of the 2016 Moss Review. The recommendation was that, “Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Service be integrated into the provision of health care at the AMC in order to introduce its holistic model of care to Indigenous detainees. “

Winnunga has a fulltime presence within the AMC. The Winnunga Model of Care, as a stand-alone community-controlled service in the AMC, is the first of its kind nationally to be implemented into a correctional facility.

Winnunga provides culturally appropriate trauma-informed and responsive health care, specifically developed to meet the complex health and social support needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees’ health services to detainees at AMC and includes:

- o Health assessments
- o GP mental health care plans and focussed psychological strategies
- o Coordination and care planning for chronic conditions
- o Standard GP consultations and case conferencing

This is an innovative approach to investing in addressing complex underlying health and social and emotional wellbeing issues experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees, that have contributed to their high-risk behaviours and resulted in periods of incarceration. This approach enables Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees at the AMC, to access comprehensive primary, allied and specialist health care to manage serious chronic and acute conditions and reduce the deterioration and escalation of health issues.

In 2020/21 Winnunga Nimmityjah Health and Wellbeing services was funded \$497,646.87 to provide services in the AMC. In 2021/22 \$1.348 million will be provided to Winnunga for the Winnunga Model of Care at the AMC and Justice Health will receive \$0.128 million taking the total initiative funding to \$1.476 million.

The increase in funding for the Winnunga Model of Care in 2021/22 will meet the commitment to fully implement the recommendations of the 2016 Moss Inquiry. The funding will expand the current service delivery through increasing much-needed psychologist hours. The increased funding also provides for registered nurses providing daily services to Winnunga clients at the AMC, pharmaceutical compounding costs and outsourcing clinical supervision for Winnunga FTE.

Up until the announcement of the 2021/22 budget, Winnunga self-funded the nursing component of the Model of Care.

Further decisions by Government will need to be made in the near future based on the current Model of Care delivered by Winnunga at the AMC. This will include a Business Case for the out years, 2022/23 and beyond.

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

Signature: *Emma Davidson*

Date: 03 November 2021

By the Minister for Mental Health, Emma Davidson MLA