



## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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### SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2022-2023

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

### ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

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MRS KIKKERT MLA: To ask the Minister for Justice Health

Ref: Budget Statement C, Output 1.2: Mental Health, Justice Health and Alcohol and Drug Service,  
page 37

**In relation to:** Health staffing and mental health care at the Alexander Maconachie Centre (AMC)

- 1) How many psychologists are currently employed by the AMC, and what are their working hours?
- 2) How many psychiatrists are currently employed by the AMC, and what are their working hours?
- 3) How many detainees are on the waiting list to see a psychiatrist?
- 4) What is currently the longest waiting time for a detainee to see a psychiatrist?

MS DAVIDSON MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

- 1) Custodial Mental Health currently employs three full-time psychologists who work Monday-Friday business hours.
- 2) Custodial Mental Health currently employs a consultant forensic psychiatrist three days a week and a psychiatry registrar full-time.
- 3) There is not currently a wait-list for psychiatry services.
- 4) Psychiatry appointments are scheduled according to clinical need. This includes same day assessment in the case of emergency. New admissions requiring psychiatry follow-up are typically seen within seven days depending on the triaged need. Where a detainee's psychiatric needs cannot be met in the AMC due to acuity or clinical need, they are transferred to inpatient facilities at Canberra Hospital or Dhulwa Mental Health Unit.

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

Signature: *Emma Davidson*

Date: 9 September 2022

By the Minister for Justice Health, Emma Davidson MLA