



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QToN No. 7

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Mrs Elizabeth Kikkert MLA (Chair), Mr Michael Pettersson MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Andrew Braddock MLA

Inquiry into Auditor-General's Performance Audit Reports January 2022 – June 2022
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
8 December 2022

Asked by **MRS ELIZABETH KIKKERT** on 8 December 2022: **MINISTER EMMA DAVIDSON** took on notice the following question(s):

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In relation to:

Could you confirm how many new psychologists or psychiatrists were hired since the report from the Auditor General in March?

Can we also please confirm the exact vacancy rate of psychologists and psychiatrists at the AMC?

MINISTER EMMA DAVIDSON: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

As of 6 January 2023, there are no current vacant psychologist positions within the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC). Custodial Mental Health (CMH) currently has three full-time psychologists who work Monday to Friday during business hours. No new psychologists have been hired since March 2022. These psychologists provide clinical management and/or targeted psychological interventions to detainees accessing psychiatry services and those referred to the Assertive Response Team due to immediate concerns regarding suicide or self-harm.

As of 6 January 2023, there are no current vacant psychiatry positions within the AMC. One part time psychiatrist commenced at the AMC in December 2022. CMH currently employs 2.4 full time equivalent psychiatry staff to service the care and treatment of detainees in the AMC.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature: *Emma Davidson*

Date: 12 January 2023

By the Minister for Justice Health, Emma Davidson MLA