

Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee

Inquiry into the Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Amendment Bill 2023 **ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Senator Canavan to ask the Minister for Health:

How many staff of Calvary Public Hospital took redundancy rather than signing a new contract with Canberra Health Services?

Minister Stephen-Smith MLA: The answer to the Senator's question is as follows:

50 staff from Calvary Public Hospital took a redundancy.

Approved for circulation to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee

Signature:

Date:

5 | 9 | 23

By the ACT Minister for Health, Ms Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA

Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee

Inquiry into the Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Amendment Bill 2023 **ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Senator Canavan to ask the Minister for Health:

How many people did the ACT Government sign non-disclosure agreements during the acquisition process in relation to the acquisition and when was the first one signed?

Minister Stephen-Smith MLA: The answer to the Senator's question is as follows:

175 ACT Government staff signed confidentiality agreements (non-disclosure agreements) relating to the Northside Hospital Project. The first confidentiality agreement signed was on 3 April 2023.

Approved for circulation to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee

Signature:

Date:

5/9/23

By the ACT Minister for Health, Ms Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA

Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee

Inquiry into the Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Amendment Bill 2023 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Senator Canavan to ask the Minister for Health:

Please provide the data you have that shows the comparison of costs for Calvary Hospital and Canberra Hospital with their peer hospitals.

Minister Stephen-Smith MLA: The answer to the Senator's question is as follows:

The data I referred to during the hearing was from the Independent Hospital and Aged Care Pricing Authority and referred to 2019-20 benchmarking data. In 2019-20, when comparing hospitals against their peers the below is available.

- In 2019-20 the portal shows that Canberra Hospital had a cost per National Weighted Activity unit (NWAU) at a cost of \$6,415. Its peers (principal referral hospitals) benchmark at \$6,384, demonstrating a 0.48 per cent above the national benchmark for its peer hospitals.
- In 2019-20 the portal shows that Calvary Public Hospital delivers NWAU at a cost of \$6,287. Its peers (public acute group A hospitals) benchmark at \$5,919, demonstrating a 6.2 per cent above the national benchmark for its peer hospitals.

More recent data was drawn to my attention following the hearing. This was not available at the time of ACT Government decision-making on the acquisition, but shows that:

- In 2020-21, Canberra Hospital had a cost per NWAU of \$6,339, in comparison to its Peer Group (Principal referral) cost per NWAU of \$6,284.
- In 2020-21, Calvary Public Hospital Bruce (CPHB) had a cost per NWAU of \$5,901, in comparison to its peer group (Public acute group A) cost per NWAU of \$5,904.

The differences in average cost per NWAU between Canberra Health Services (CHS) and CPHB were largely driven by mental health NWAU costs, with CHS seeing consumers with substantially higher acuity. For admitted acute care, Calvary's cost per NWAU was \$40 lower than CHS, while its cost for admitted sub-acute and non-acute admissions was \$210 above CHS.

- <https://benchmarking.ihacpa.gov.au/extensions/ihpanbp/index.html#/periodic-insights/overview>.

Approved for circulation to the Senate Community Affairs References Committee

Signature:

Date:

5/9/23

By the ACT Minister for Health, Ms Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA