

Response to question on notice

Questions on Notice Paper No 15

6 February 2026

Question No. 818

MR RATTENBURY MLA: To ask the Minister for Mental Health

Is Canberra Health Services undertaking any planning or seeking funding to implement a supported transport model similar to that used for the Muliyan program, another ACT Government program in which youth workers transport young people from and to their home and the program, to enable young people to access The Cottage program by the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), given that young people with moderate to severe mental health issues who are referred to The Cottage are highly reliant on having family members available to drive them to and from the program each day, and that when The Cottage moves from Bruce to Tuggeranong in 2027, these challenges will be exacerbated for young people and families on the northside and is likely to prevent some eligible young people from being able to access the Cottage at all.

MS STEPHEN-SMITH MLA - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Canberra Health Services (CHS) is undertaking planning processes to assess the feasibility of a supported transport model for The Cottage Program when it relocates to Erindale in 2027. This will include the establishment of a focus group with staff, parents, and young people to help assess the demand and feasibility for a supported transport model.

Any decision to seek formal investment for a supported transport model will be informed by these planning processes.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.



Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA
Mental Health

Date: 15/3/26

This response required 3 hrs 50 mins to complete, at an approximate cost of \$404.47.