

Response to question on notice

Questions on Notice Paper No 11

26 September 2025

Question No. 644

Peter Cain MLA: To ask the Minister for Health

1. Why does the ACT Government continue to require a health levy despite a 16 percent increase in Commonwealth hospital funding for 2025-2026.
2. How will the Government allocate the additional Commonwealth health funding referred to in part (1) across the ACT health system.
3. What measures will be taken to ensure the funding referred to in part (1) improves patient outcomes, including waiting times.

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

1. Despite an increase in Commonwealth hospital funding, the Commonwealth Contribution Rate – the proportion of hospital funding provided by the Commonwealth – has declined in recent years, as a result of increased health services cost and demand. Please refer to page 192 of the 2025-26 Budget Review for further information. The rationale for the health levy is set out in the 2025-26 ACT Budget Outlook, including at pages 33, 36 and 86. There have been no changes to Commonwealth funding for ACT hospitals since the 2025-26 Budget.
2. The 15.6 per cent increase in Commonwealth hospital funding for 2025-26 is made up of two components:
 - a) a 6.5 per cent increase from an estimated 2024-25 funding of \$544 million; and
 - b) \$50 million one-off fixed funding in 2025-26 for hospital and health services.

These increases have been incorporated into the \$2.2 billion budget for the ACT Local Hospital Network in 2025-26 to deliver public hospital and health services to Canberrans and residents of the surrounding NSW region.

3. Health system performance is routinely, and will continue to be, monitored and reported through our data dashboard at [ACT health service data dashboard](#). Additionally, the ACT has implemented a Service Funding Agreement with Canberra Health Services that strengthens the Activity Based Management implementation and monitoring arrangements in line with other states and territories.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.



**Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA
Minister for Health**

Date: 28 / 10 / 25

This response required 2hrs 0mins to complete, at an approximate cost of \$237.18.