

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Dr Lim

to Minister for Infrastructure and Transport

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**\$30 Million Fix-Up for Alice Springs Hospital**

Please advise whether remediation works at the Alice Springs Hospital is on schedule. If not, why not?

What is the anticipated date of completion of all remediation works at the Alice Springs Hospital?

**ANSWER**

The schedule of remediation works extends over several years due to the requirement to progressively decant each ward to enable works to be undertaken. The works are therefore in the main, sequential rather than concurrent.

The first task was to create a dedicated decant ward suitable for all types of patient care. This has been completed, as has the first operational ward. Ward 4 is also nearing completion. This ward is not part of the rectification, but has been upgraded for renal patients. Simultaneously, part of the ward has been converted for additional decant space for when the larger wards undergo rectification.

Due to the emerging nature of the defects in the early stages the work has been slow and the construction program has had to be adjusted to suit the needs of the hospital. For example the hospital has requested works in the operating theatres and paediatrics be done during windows of lower activity in the annual cycle. If the timing is missed, due to unforeseen works, the program has to be reconfigured. It is essential to retain flexibility and Hospital Management has been most co-operative in working with Department of Planning and Infrastructure in this regard.