

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Question Taken on Notice

Question Number: 5.31

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Date: 15 June 2026

From: J Davis

To: Hon Steve Edgington MLA

Portfolio: Health

Agency: Department of Health

Subject: Longest time in emergency holding area before mental health bed was available

QUESTION:

What is the longest period a person experiencing acute mental health illness has spent in an emergency department holding area or other non-specialist setting awaiting admission to a mental health bed in the reporting period?

ANSWER:

For the reporting period 1 July 2025 to 31 March 2026, the longest period a person experiencing acute mental health illness spent in an emergency department holding area, or other non-specialist setting awaiting admission to a mental health bed, was a total of 4 days and 6 hours.