

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Guyula to the Minister for Health:

Health Infrastructure

- 1. Miwatj Health faces two key infrastructure challenges when delivering programs. Firstly, clinic facilities are aging, poorly designed and becoming too small to properly cater for the client population. Recently, at the Yirrkala clinic, GPs have had to see patients in the corridors due to there being insufficient consulting rooms.**

Miwatj Health is also expected to deliver comprehensive primary health care services, but clinics are designed to deliver acute and emergency care. Fit for purpose premises are needed to deliver the preventative programs necessary to make long term health improvements. In many sites such as Ramingining, Milingimbi and Galiwin'ku, there are no alternative buildings to deliver these programs.

What is the NT Government doing to ensure that Health Care Centre buildings in remote communities in East Arnhem Land are of the standard required to deliver long term improvements to the health of Yolngu?

- NT Health works with the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics to guide investment and prioritisation for remote health services infrastructure owned by NT Health.
- The design of a new health centre is based on the Australasian Health Facility Guidelines and stakeholder engagement, including the service provider and Traditional Owners.
- NT Health works with the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care to provide advice on opportunities for Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations to secure funding for capital investment.