



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

No. 112

WRITTEN QUESTION

J Davis to the Minister for Health, Hon Steven Edgington MLA:

Pathology, Mortuary and Bereavement Facility

1. The 2024/25 Budget allocated \$22.6 million for upgrading the forensic mortuary, pathology, and bereavement facility.
 - a. Why does this funding not appear in the 2025/26 Budget?
 - b. Please clarify why the \$22.6 million allocated in 2024/25 was removed from the 2025/26 Budget?
 - c. Has this funding been reallocated elsewhere, and if so, where?
2. What is the current status of the facility upgrade—has any work started or is it still pending?
 - a. Has the upgrade project been delayed or reprioritized, and if so, why?
3. Given the urgent need to attract and retain pathologists, how is the government managing the risk of staff shortages?
4. What steps is the government taking to ensure current facilities meet professional requirements?
5. How will the current state of pathology and mortuary facilities affect service delivery across the Northern Territory?
6. What plans are in place to provide culturally safe bereavement services for communities in the NT?
7. Is there a new timeline for completion or commencement of the upgrade project?
8. How is the government addressing risks to public health and forensic services due to any outdated or inadequate facilities?
 - a. Please provide the full risk assessment if possible.