PARLIAMENT
OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NO. 7
Answered on 10th October, 2024
First Meeting 2024-2025 Session - Third Sitting

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION
ASKED BY

MS. BARBARA CONOLLY, NP, JP, MP – DEPUTY LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION, ELECTED MEMBER FOR THE CONSTITUENCY OF GEORGE TOWN SOUTH

TO

THE HON. SABRINA TURNER, MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR HEALTH & WELLNESS *AND* HOME AFFAIRS

QUESTION:

Can the Honourable Minister update the House on the building and fit out costs to date for the Poinciana Mental Health facility?

ANSWER:

Mister Speaker, the total building and fit out costs to date for the Poinciana Rehabilitation Centre (PRC) is CI twenty-two million, nine hundred and fifty-six thousand dollars (CI $22,956,000).

The original project cost was estimated at CI sixteen million, two hundred and forty-one thousand dollars (CI $16,241,000) at the Outline Business Case (OBC) stage, in 2016. Meaning there is a change of six point four million ($6,400,000) to date, for building and fit out costs.

This modification is largely attributed to changes in scope, which improved and increased capacity at the Centre. The original Outline Business Case expected the Poinciana Rehabilitation Centre to be constructed to residential facility building standards. It was later agreed to increase construction standards so that the structures will gain higher hurricane ratings than would normally be required for a standard residential facility.
This also saw an increase in the size of the administration building of approximately 200 feet: from nineteen thousand, two hundred and sixteen square feet (19,216 square feet) to nineteen thousand four hundred and ten square feet (19,410 square feet).

Additionally, specialized equipment and custom fit outs were required to increase operational capabilities and efficiencies.

With regards to the cottages, the original OBC in 2016 called for seven (7) cottages. It was later agreed to build nine (9) to increase the number of patients the Center can care for. The cottage size was also increased by approximately 200 square feet from three thousand seven hundred and twenty -five square feet (3,725 square feet) to three thousand, nine hundred and forty-eight square feet (3,948 square feet).

Mr. Speaker, it is also important to remind everyone listening to these remarks, of the impacts to this project, caused by Covid 19. The Poinciana Rehabilitation Centre broke ground in October 2019. In March 2020 the entire construction sector was stood down in response to the pandemic. The sector did not resume for months thereby pushing out the deliverable date, as work could not continue. When the sector resumed there were significant challenges with supply chains, re-importing labour, and pressures caused by the industry wide backlog. Covid 19 also triggered a large inflation and price increases globally.

Mister Speaker, the Government believes in the benefits that the Poinciana Rehabilitation Centre will bring to our community, and continues to do all it can to not only support its opening, but also ensure that the Centre is built for purpose to meet current and future needs.