MATT CONLAN
SHADOW HEALTH MINISTER
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AND IT’S ABOUT TIME

The Country Liberals welcome the announcement of the re-establishment of maternity services at Gove Hospital – but are still unclear on why the service was forced to stop in the first place.

Shadow Health Minister Matt Conlan said it's inexcusable that expectant mums in Gove have been forced to do without birthing services.

“If the Government has been able to find a replacement after pressure from the community, media and the Opposition, why wasn't it able to do so before the last obstetrician left Gove,” Mr Conlan said.

“It's an appalling state of affairs that the Government has waited until the position was vacant before it was embarrassed into finding a solution.

“The Health Minister, Kon Vatskalis, is still to reveal details of what the service will cost Territorians.

“It's his responsibility to front up to Territorians and tell them how much they're paying for his incompetence and inability to find a replacement.

“And while he's at it, he should explain to the pregnant women of Gove exactly where the $60 a night accommodation his health CEO said was available while they're in Darwin and offer a sincere apology to the women forced to leave their community to deliver their babies.”

Further comment: Matt Conlan 0408 805 338