SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON MENTAL HEALTH

MEDIA RELEASE

6 October 2005

SENATE INQUIRY INTO MENTAL HEALTH

PUBLIC HEARING IN CANBERRA

The Senate Select Committee on Mental Health will hold a **public hearing** in Canberra on **Friday 7 October 2005**.

The Committee will hear from Commonwealth agencies involved in mental health care and policy. They will include representatives of:

- Department of Health and Ageing
- Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs;
- Department of Employment and Workplace Relations; and
- Medicare Australia (formerly the Health Insurance Commission).

The hearing will be held at Parliament House in Committee room 1 R 1, and will be open to the public from 9.15am. The program for the hearing is attached.

Senator Lyn Allison
Committee Chair

Further inquiries to Ian Holland, Committee Secretary, on (02) 6277 3019 or 0411 026 208.

For general information about the hearing or the inquiry contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 3034.
Email mental.health@aph.gov.au
Internet: http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/mentalhealth_ctte/

Senate Select Committee on Mental Health

PUBLIC HEARING - CANBERRA

7 October 2005
9.15am – 4.15pm

Committee Room 1 R 1
Parliament House Canberra

PROGRAM – COMMONWEALTH AGENCIES (SUBMISSION 476)

9:15 – 10:30	**Department of Health and Ageing** Mr Philip Davis, Acting Secretary Prof. John Horvath, Chief Medical Officer Ms Margaret Lyons, First Assistant Secretary, Health Services Improvement Division Prof. Harvey Whiteford, Mental Health Clinical Adviser Mr Bill Buckingham, Mental Health Consultant Mr John Primrose, Medical Adviser, Pharmaceutical Benefits Branch Ms Rosemary Huxtable, First Assistant Secretary, Medical and Pharmaceutical Services Division Mr Charles Maskell-Knight, First Assistant Secretary, Acute Care Division Mr David Learmonth, First Assistant Secretary, Primary Care Division Ms Lesley Podesta, First Assistant Secretary, OATSIH Ms Jenny Hefford, A/g First Assistant Secretary, Population Health Division Ms Samantha Robertson, A/g Assistant Secretary, Medicare Benefits Branch **Department of Immigration and Indigenous and Multicultural Affairs** Ms Lynne O'Connell, First Assistant Secretary, Detention Services Division Mr Dermot Casey, Assistant Secretary, Detention Health Services Strategy Branch Ms Kate Pope, Assistant Secretary, Settlement Branch
10:30 – 10:45	**Morning Tea**
10:45 – 12:45	**Department of Health and Ageing continued** **Medicare Australia (formerly Health Insurance Commission)** Dr Janet Mould, General Manager, Program Review Division, Medicare Australia
12:45 – 1:45	**Lunch**
1:45 – 3:30	**Department of Health and Ageing continued as required** **FaCS** Ms Susan Bozic, Section Manager, Carers Section Ms Ellen Wood, Section Manager, Homelessness Policy and Assistance Ms Suzanne Bozic, Section Manager, Carers Section **DEWR** Mr Barry Sandison, A/g Group Manager Working Age Policy **Human Services** Ms Perry Sperling, First Assistant Secretary, Service Delivery - Policy and Strategy **Centrelink** Ms Moya Drayton, National Manager, Disabilities Services Branch, Centrelink
3:30 – 3:45	**Afternoon Tea**
3:45 – 4:15	**Department of Health and Ageing continued as required** Continuation of: **DEWR, Human Services, Centrelink**