

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2012-2013, 30 & 31 May and 1 June 2012

Question: E12 -172

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: 2012-13 Budget mental health initiatives

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Number of pages: 1

Senator: Senator Wright

Question:

- a) In last year's budget, \$2.2 billion dollars was allocated to various mental health reforms, some of which have been announced over the past year. I would like to hear about any new initiatives contained in the 2012-13 Budget. Can you list all the new mental health measures contained in this year's Budget?
- b) Can you please provide details of funding allocated under this year's Budget to those new initiatives?

Answer:

a) and b)

There are no new specific mental health measures included in the 2012-13 Budget, as the Australian Government will continue to implement the 2011-12 *Delivering National Mental Health Reform* Budget package. The 2011-12 Budget provides a \$1.5 billion investment in both health and community services over five years. The Government has committed a total of \$2.2 billion from 2011-12 to 2015-16 when combining the 2011-12 Budget and 2010 election commitments.

However, the 2012-13 Budget provided additional funding of \$16.5 million to the Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program, bringing total funding for 2012-13 to \$35.6 million so that services under the Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program can be maintained at 2011-12 service levels while a comprehensive evaluation of the program is undertaken.