

**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- 190

**OUTCOME 11: Mental Health**

**Topic:** Anti-Stigma programs

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Number of pages:** 1

**Senator:** Senator Wright

**Question:**

A 2011 report by the Mental Health Council of Australia highlighted the levels of stigma experienced by mental health consumers from mental health professionals. What measures are being undertaken by the Department to develop and deliver evidence-based mental health programs that address these levels of stigma so that consumers and carers can be treated with respect and dignity within our mental health system?

**Answer:**

The Department of Health and Ageing funded the Mental Health Council of Australia's survey and report on stigma in the mental health workforce.

The Australian Government provides funding for several projects and programs designed to reduce stigma for all members of the community including those providing primary mental healthcare services. These programs include national initiatives such as *beyondblue*: the national depression and anxiety initiative, SANE, StigmaWatch and Mindframe, in addition to programs such as headspace and the school based programs MindMatters and KidsMatter.