

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-257

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: MULTICULTURAL MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT (MMHA)

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Would any provider have the expert team, extent of knowledge, understanding, experience and resources and the backing of a number of multicultural health services as the current MMHA program does?

Answer:

An independent review of the Multicultural Mental Health Australia project recommended that the Department of Health and Ageing conduct an open market process for the management of the project.

Following the conclusion of an open, merit based Invitation to Apply process, a new three year funding agreement was executed in June 2011 for the delivery of a revised and refocussed multicultural mental health project. The open application process identified a provider that is appropriately skilled and experienced.

The project will be delivered by the Queensland Transcultural Mental Health Centre in partnership with the University of Melbourne's Centre for International Mental Health, the Victorian Transcultural Psychiatry Unit, and the University of South Australia's Mental Health Nursing Group, Human Rights and Security Cluster. The Queensland Mental Health Alcohol and Other Drugs Directorate is the fund holder and will offer management and executive support for the project.