

Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade

Inquiry into suicide by veterans and ex-service personnel – 6 February 2017

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Defence

Topic: Sick Leave during Transition Process

Question reference number: 7

Senator: Kakoschke-Moore

Type of question: provided in writing

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 17 March 2017

Question:

During this inquiry we have heard evidence of ADF members being on sick leave while their transition out of the ADF is being processed. What is the longest period of time a member has been on sick leave during this process?

Answer:

Medical separations normally take between three months and three years. The longer transition periods are to support members with complex health issues and to ensure a member is prepared for a safe transition out of Defence. Without commenting on any individual case, it is therefore likely that some members will be on medical related leave for all or a portion of that period.