

COMMITTEE INQUIRY QUESTION

(Question No.3)

Senator Kimberley Kitching asked the Department of Defence, upon notice, on 04 February 2022:

3. Has Defence needed to further tailor or develop new supports to assist with the wellbeing of ADF personnel?

The Department of Defence has provided the following answer to Senator Kitching's question:

3. Defence is continually improving its health services and programs, and is developing new initiatives to improve its mental health services. Defence has not needed to review or develop new supports/resources specifically relating to the withdrawal of Afghanistan, however Defence is cognisant that its services, programs and resources remain contemporary.

COMMITTEE INQUIRY QUESTION

(Question No.2)

Senator Kimberley Kitching asked the Department of Defence, upon notice, on 04 February 2022:

2. Defence informed the committee that in response to the developments in Afghanistan, it developed a set of specific mental health resources to support ADF members and APS. Have you received any feedback on these resources? Is support being accessed?

The Department of Defence has provided the following answer to Senator Kitching's question:

2. Joint Health Command commanders have provided feedback through their senior leaders indicating the resources have been received positively, and were timely and of good quality.

An increase in support access levels specifically due to the Afghanistan withdrawal has not been observed. The rates of engagement and uptake of mental health services in the Australian Defence Force exceeds community and international standards.