

**headspace National—Response to questions on notice asked by
Senator Henderson**

Questions:

- Have you made a proposal in that respect?
- So no one in government sought your assistance or sought to enter into any sort of arrangements with headspace to support young people with this social media ban?
- Could you also provide any information about, as you say, much more work being required. Have you got any submission to that effect? Are you seeking any funding or any further remit to provide these services, from either the eSafety Commissioner or government?

Response:

Following the passage of the legislation, headspace National engaged with the Department of Health and Aged Care (at the time) on the likely needs of young people in the lead up to and as the minimum age requirements came into force, and how to leverage headspace's brand, website and programs to support young people. This included options to leverage headspace's engagement with young people via our school and community programs. Rather than enter any specific arrangements around the social media ban, headspace has developed (and is continuing to develop) materials to support young people and families within our existing resources.

As the committee has discussed, for many young people particularly those aged 13 to 15 years, the minimum age requirements will significantly change the ways they can engage with friends and families, be creative, and connect with communities and groups of interest. School aged young people have told us that it will have a big impact on the way they interact with friends and family, that it may increase isolation and loneliness, and that it may leave them feeling excluded from social trends and conversations. Young people and the families need information about what the ban will mean for their existing accounts and what they can do to address negative impacts such as isolation. More broadly, we need government to continue to work with social media platforms and gaming platforms to provide safe online spaces for all young people.