

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO**

**Additional Estimates 13 & 15 February 2013**

**Question:** E13-139

**OUTCOME 11: Mental Health**

**Topic:** Indigenous Suicide Prevention Projects

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 42, 15 February 2013

**Senator:** Senator Siewert

**Question:**

- a) What do organisations have to do to seek that extension?
- b) Have you already written to them?
- c) Will the criteria for the decision-making process and whether or not they have been successful be included in the letter?
- d) Could you supply the criteria and what level of funding would be offered. Are you saying it has to be just a continuation of existing funding on the same grounds?
- e) Are you offering an extension of funding to all organisations that are funded under the program?

**Answer:**

a) and b)

On 14 December 2012, the Department of Health and Ageing wrote to organisations funded under the National Suicide Prevention Program (NSPP) to inform them of the intention to extend funding to eligible projects funded under the NSPP for an additional 12 months to 30 June 2014.

On 18 February 2013, the Department wrote to these same organisations, inviting them to submit a proposal for funding for the 2013-14 financial year.

c) and d)

A template was provided to applicants to simplify the submission process. The criteria that will be used to ascertain if funding is appropriate was developed by the Australian Suicide Prevention Advisory Council (ASPAC). The template provided to organisations is consistent with the criteria developed by ASPAC.

The funding amount for each project will be consistent with existing funding levels.

- e) Yes – subject to projects meeting the ASPAC endorsed criteria.