

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO**

**Additional Estimates 13 & 15 February 2013**

**Question: E13 -137**

**OUTCOME 11: Mental Health**

**Topic:** COAG Working Group on Mental Health Reform

**Type of Question:** Page 130, 13 February 2013

**Senator:** Senator Wright

**Question:**

Can I ask you to take on notice the variety of things that that working group has been asked to do that you might not have otherwise had time to tell us about?

**Answer:**

On 7 December 2012 COAG released the Roadmap for National Mental Health Reform 2012-2022 (the Roadmap). A copy of the Roadmap is available at <http://www.coag.gov.au/node/482> As noted on pages 30-32 of the Roadmap, the COAG Working Group on Mental Health Reform (the Working Group) will have responsibility for the following major tasks:

**Improving Access to Data**

By mid-2013, the Working Group will provide advice to COAG on the development of a mental health data-sharing protocol. As a longer term initiative, the Working Group will assess the value of national mental health data sets to determine whether information being provided is person centred and whole-of-life.

**Developing Indicators and Targets for Reform**

By the end of 2013 the Working Group will develop a set of indicators and targets to demonstrate that mental health reforms are improving outcomes and making a difference to the whole of peoples' lives. The preliminary set of indicators identified in the Roadmap will be used as a starting point.

**Successor to the Fourth National Mental Health Plan**

By mid-2014 the Working Group will develop a successor to the Fourth National Mental Health Plan 2009-2014 (Fourth Plan) for consideration by COAG. The successor will set out how the Roadmap will be implemented and commence when the Fourth Plan expires in 2014.

## **Response to the Report Card**

In addition, COAG has asked that the Working Group prepare a response to the National Mental Health Commission's National Report Card on Mental Health and Suicide Prevention 2012 (the Report Card) for COAG consideration.