

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000438

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Mental Health Funding

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: O'Neill, Deborah

Question:

Research future fund - \$12 million

The tender process for this funding closed at the end of September last year? Can the Department provide an update regarding when these funds will be announced? Are there any delays? Is there a reasons why funding has yet to be allocated? If the Department has given advice to the Minister on the successful recipients can this be provided?

Answer:

The Suicide Prevention Research Fund and best practice hub of resources forms part of the Australian Government's \$192 million election commitment to strengthen mental health care in Australia. Funding of \$12 million over four years commencing in 2016-17 was included in the 2016-17 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook as part of the measure *Strengthening Mental Health Care in Australia*. The Suicide Prevention Research Fund will support a national approach to targeted research as well as a best practice hub of evidence-based resources to support Primary Health Networks and service providers involved in community-based suicide prevention.

An announcement on the organisation chosen to manage the Suicide Prevention Research Fund will be made shortly.