

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 & 30 May 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000671

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Indigenous Suicide

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Sterle, Glenn

Question:

The major ATSIPEP Report was publicly released on 10 November 2016. In a Media Statement that same day, the then Health Minister Sussan Ley, said as follows: “The Coalition Government has committed to trialling the community-led approaches recommended in the report.” <http://www.nigelscullion.com/media+hub/Community-led+solutions+for+Indigenous+suicide+prevention> In May 2017, some six months after the ATSIPEP Report’s release, how many of the 17 recommendations have been enacted?

Answer:

The Australian Government is not responding to the individual recommendations of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Evaluation Project (ATSIPEP). The report as a whole is informing Australian Government action and will help guide future policy and action.

The ATSIPEP report will form a blueprint for the Indigenous-specific suicide prevention trial sites in the Kimberley and Darwin regions.

On 16 March 2017, the department hosted a workshop between the Primary Health Network (PHN) Chief Executive Officers and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Advisory Group to communicate the outcomes of the ATSIPEP and to share progress in regards to culturally appropriate services. PHNs agreed to explore further opportunities for developing and enhancing partnership arrangements with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and communities.