

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 & 30 May 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000906

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Mental Health in Multicultural Australia

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Collins, Jacinta

Question:

How many people accessed the MHiMA on an annual basis before funding was cut in 2016? How many people currently use the resources available on the web presence? What does the Department attribute any difference to?

Answer:

The Department of Health does not keep statistics on the number of times Mental Health in Multicultural Australia (MHiMA) resources are accessed. Mental Health Australia (MHA) were not asked to provide usage statistics to the Department. The primary focus for MHA in 2015-16 was to prepare the *Mental Health in Multicultural Australia (MHiMA) Project – Recommendations for Future Directions Report* and manage the MHiMA project.

Funding for MHiMA was not cut in 2016. MHA was offered, and did not accept, an extension of funding to maintain the MHiMA project while the approach to market was completed. The Australian Government has approved funding for three years from 2017-18. The Department is currently preparing the approach to market for a new project lead.