

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-11, 20 October 2010

Question: E10-352

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: REPORTING ON MENTAL HEALTH

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

During the election campaign the Government committed \$9m over three years for better reporting measures. This investment is to establish an annual report card on mental health and suicide prevention and consistent reporting by Medicare Locals and Local Hospital Networks of mental health service performance and outcomes for consumers.

- a) What are the core performance measures that these new initiatives will track?
- b) How will reporting of these measures link to performance targets and performance management at a local and national level?

Answer:

- a) The Australian Government is committed to establishing an annual report card on mental health and suicide prevention from 2011-12. The Department of Health and Ageing will consider the specific performance measures and indicators as part of its implementation planning. This will take into account existing performance measures such as the Fourth National Mental Health Plan indicators, the Key Performance Indicators for Australian Public Mental Health Services and the National Healthcare Agreement mental health indicators.
- b) As part of the development of the core performance measures to be used in the annual report card, the Australian Government will consider options for linking measures to performance targets and performance management at a local and national level.