

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 19 October 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000741

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: National Suicide Prevention Fund

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Polley, Helen

Question:

Did the Department provide any analysis, advice or assessment to the Health Minister prior to the tender process occurring for the National Suicide Prevention Fund? If yes, can the Department provide that information?

Answer:

On 26 June 2016 the Australian Government committed \$192 million over four years to strengthen mental health care in Australia, this included \$12 million in funding for a Suicide Prevention Research Fund (the Fund). The Fund will support targeted research, including to develop and evaluate regional suicide prevention models. It will include a best practice hub of resources to support the work of Primary Health Networks (PHNs) and others involved in community-based suicide prevention activity.

At this stage the Department has not undertaken any tender or selection process for the Fund. Further details on the Fund will be announced once government has taken a formal decision on the matter.