



Early Intervention to Prevent Youth Suicide Inquiry Re-adopted

Committee to hold further roundtables

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Health and Ageing has re-adopted its inquiry by roundtable forum into the need for, and success of, early intervention programs aimed at preventing youth suicide. The inquiry lapsed at the dissolution of the last Parliament.

To date, the inquiry process has included two roundtables, both in 2010. The first was in Melbourne and the Committee took evidence from a range of non-government organisations including the Australian Psychological Society, Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists, beyondblue and Headspace: National Youth Mental Health Foundation.

The Sydney roundtable also took evidence from a range of non-government stakeholders including Lifeline Australia, the Black Dog Institute, Suicide Prevention Australia and the Australian National University's Centre for Mental Health Research.

The Committee anticipates that additional roundtables will be held with a focus on the education and government sectors.

Chair of the Committee, Mr Steve Georganas MP said that: "The Committee views the issue of youth suicide prevention as one of national significance. It is hoped that the work of the Committee in bringing the issue forward for further consultation will complement the work of the many organisations who strive to assist young Australians who have considered taking their own lives".

Further information in relation to the Committee's inquiry, including information on additional roundtables to be held by the Committee are available on the Committee's website at:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/haa/youthsuicide/index.htm>

For media inquires, please contact the Chair of the Committee, Mr Steve Georganas by phone on (08) 8376 9000.

For all other inquiries, please contact the secretariat by phone on (02) 6277 4145 or visit the Committee's website: www.aph.gov.au/haa.