

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017

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OUTCOME: 0 - Whole of Portfolio

Topic: Report on Veteran Suicide

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Senator: Siewert, Rachel

Question:

Senator SIEWERT: Can you just take us through your findings there? I realise we do not have a lot of time, but perhaps you could just quickly go through what the highlights of that are, from your perspective.

Mr Sandison: As you would understand, we put out about 150 reports a year, and there was not advice beyond, 'Please appear at your leisure'. So the specific experts for the different groups are across the institute. But the key finding was in the younger age group. I think it was the 18- to 24-year group. That was where there was a differentiation from the general population.

Senator SIEWERT: And that was significant, wasn't it?

Mr Sandison: Yes. I can table the report that was provided late last year and provide that to the secretariat. That has all the detail that we could get to with the data that we had.

Answer:

A three-page fact sheet on the preliminary results was published on 30 November 2016, *Incidence of suicide among serving and ex-serving Australian Defence Force personnel 2001–2014*, available at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail/?id=60129557674>