

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 1 – 2 June 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000402

OUTCOME: 5 - Primary Health Care

Topic: National Mental Health Plan

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: McLucas, Jan

Question:

Please provide an update on the progress of the development of the 5th National Mental Health Plan, including:

- a. How many meetings of the Expert Reference Group have been held
- b. How many meetings of the COAG Working Group on Mental Health Reform have been held
- c. The timeline for the development of the 5th National Mental Health Plan
- d. A schedule for stakeholder consultations which includes the dates and locations of consultations

Answer:

- a. The first Expert Reference Group (ERG) meeting was held on 18 June 2015. The ERG is tasked with providing advice to the Government to inform its response to the Review of Mental Health Programmes and Services more broadly, rather than the development of the Fifth National Mental Health Plan.
- b. The Fifth National Mental Health Plan will be progressed through the COAG Health Council structure. A dedicated cross jurisdictional working group has been established to progress development of the Plan and held its first meeting on 30 June 2015.
- c. The timeline for development of the Fifth Plan will be determined in consultation with states and territories.
- d. A schedule for stakeholder consultation is being finalised.