

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013, 17 and 19 October 2012

Question: E12-079

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: Mental Health: Taking Action to Tackle Suicide (TATS) Package

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Number of pages: 1

Senator: Senator Wright

Question:

In the Taking Action to Tackle Suicide Package, \$60 million was committed to *'Boosting non-clinical support services'*.

Please outline which services and programs were funded, how much each service received per financial year, and what the additional funding equates to in terms of additional capacity of services for each program listed.

Answer:

- The 2011-12 Delivering on National Mental Health Reform Budget package, which was offset through savings and redirections, provided the opportunity to consolidate policy objectives of a range of existing measures into a new measure – the Partners in Recovery (PIR): Coordinated Support and Flexible Funding for People with Severe, Persistent Mental Illness and Complex Needs initiative. PIR aims to ensure better coordination of the full range of needs of a person with severe and persistent mental illness with complex multi-agency support needs. The need for better coordination and support facilitation was a strong stakeholder message in the lead up to the 2011-12 Budget.
- The Boosting Non-Clinical Support Services measure aimed to provide more non-clinical support services for people with severe forms of mental illness.
- Given the similar target group and policy objectives, funding for the Boosting Non-Clinical Support Services measure was redirected to support implementation of the broader PIR initiative.
- Implementation of PIR is progressing well, with applications from organisations seeking to become PIR organisations closing on 18 December 2012.