



Inquiry into men's suicide rates

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Mr Thomas Emerson MLA

Addressed to: Ms Stacy Leavens, CEO

In relation to: Capital Health Network and Federal Funding Figures

Hearing: 16 October 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript p 5

Transcript provided: 22 October 2025

Answer Due: 29 October 2025

Ms Stacy Leavens took on notice the following question(s):

THE CHAIR: You mentioned the bilateral schedule, or agreement, between the commonwealth and ACT governments in relation to the national agreement. I note in that schedule, it says that the parties agreed to continue to support the ongoing review, implementation and monitoring of the ACT Regional Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Plan 2019-2024. If we are in—like, what does this—what does that mean for us in this period where there is not a plan in place?

Ms Leavens: Yeah. So we continue to work very closely with ACT Health and Community Services Directorate on progressing priorities in line with the regional plan. So in this period there has been sort of a redrafting of that plan, but we continue to work really closely. We have our teams, you know, are in touch sort of regularly to ensure that those shared priorities continue to be addressed in partnership with ACT Health.

THE CHAIR: Okay, and so does that mean in this interim period that the form of plan is being kind of delivered or there is a bit of a hiatus, continuation of whatever was already in place and then new initiatives will kick off with a new plan?

Ms Leavens: Yeah. So yeah, there is been no sort of stop of things. It is a continuation of shared priorities and activities.

THE CHAIR: Okay. Do you know what level of federal funding is associated specifically with the delivery of that plan?

Ms Leavens: I do not know the full amount of funding because the national bilateral agreement covers a number of priorities. What I can tell you is that one of the components that the commonwealth funds through us, with regard specifically to suicide prevention, are aftercare services. So we fund an element of aftercare services in the ACT, and that is just over about \$700,000 per year. I can get the final—like, the exact figure to you, but we do fund aftercare services to that amount.

Ms Stacy Leavens. The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

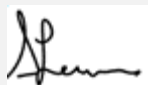
The Commonwealth Government provides an estimated financial contribution of \$25.4m to the Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Bilateral Agreement between the ACT and the Commonwealth governments. Detailed information about the Commonwealth and the ACT's financial contributions to the Bilateral Agreement can be found on page 10-12 of the Bilateral Schedule at:

https://federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/sites/federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/files/2022-04/nmh_sp_bilateral_agreement_act.pdf

There is no dedicated funding for implementation of the Regional Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Plan. Rather, the Regional Plan is intended to inform the way ACT Government and Capital Health Network work together, commission, and undertake system planning, in line with existing funding and priorities.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:



Date:29/10/2025

By: Stacy Leavens CEO, Capital Health Network