



## Suicide prevention pilots

Reducing suicide, including among veterans, is a key priority for the Australian Government. Consistent with this focus, the Government is committed to improving veterans' mental health. This measure will pilot two new approaches to supporting vulnerable veterans experiencing mental health concerns.

### Why is this important?

Suicide is an issue that affects many Australians, and the ex-serving community is not immune. The National Mental Health Commission's recent review of suicide prevention services reinforces that suicide prevention is a complex issue that requires a multi-faceted service response.

The Government takes this issue seriously and works to ensure that members of our ex-serving community experiencing mental health issues can access the support they need. These pilots will target two different cohorts of veterans – those with severe and complex needs, and those with chronic, but stable, mental and physical health issues.

### The pilots:

1. The Mental Health Clinical Management Pilot will assess the benefits of providing intensive clinical management services to address a veteran's complex mental health and social needs on discharge from a mental health hospital.
2. The existing Coordinated Veterans' Care (CVC) program will be expanded to support veterans with chronic mental and physical conditions resulting from their service.

### Who will benefit?

Over the two years of the pilots, up to 100 veterans will participate in the Mental Health Clinical Management Pilot, and up to 250 veterans will participate in the expansion of the CVC program.

### Date of effect?

The Department will begin implementation of the pilots as soon as possible. Both pilots will be evaluated to inform future policy direction for veteran mental health services.

### How much will this cost?

This measure will provide funding of \$9.8 million over three years.