

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Saturday, December 14, 2019 2:00:49 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: De-brief and update

Sent from my iPad

Dear all.

On Thursday the following people joined me for a one hour meeting with Treasurer Josh Frydenberg in Melb. The meeting was set up by Sir Peter Cosgrove last week, as he is a strong supporter of what we are trying to do.

The aim was to demonstrate a unified coalition wishing to work with the Federal Government to improve mental healthcare and reduce suicides in veterans and first responders [REDACTED]

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During the meeting he was very engaged, asked questions, and wrote copious notes. One subject which he raised was the proposed Royal Commission, and what our group's' views were. Every person at the table gave clear reasons against the Commission.

I described my proposal to educate ED staff across Australia in the needs, care, and resources available to veterans and other groups. I also mentioned the request for an extra veteran welfare hub for Tasmania, and the huge opportunity to add clinical services to all planned hubs, for veterans AND first responders.

He was aware that Sir Peter has also requested a meeting for us with Health Minister Greg Hunt, probably for January. The treasurer instructed his advisors in the meeting to ensure that the meeting will happen ASAP.

He advised us to bring essentially the same delegation, representing our broad collaboration. More about that below.

He has requested, after the Hunt meeting, that we then send to the Treasurer a list of the services we propose to fill gaps in current care. Further, he advised that we do not need to cost our requests in the summary. He indicated that support from Minister Hunt is essential. Once secured, Minister Hunt and Treasurer Frydenberg will present our proposals to Cabinet before the next Budget (May, I believe). As the next meeting will be much more focussed on clinical detail, the representation needs to be optimal. Therefore can I ask firstly that each College and the AMA brief their presidents early?

Further, we need to have a clear idea of the services we wish to propose. I already have the ED education and the Tasmanian Hub proposals before Minister Chester.

From the ED/ACEM perspective we have been overlooked in almost aall conversations about mental healthcare for veterans and first responders, yet have several suggestions to offer. I will send those out after discussion with my College.


Please share any suggestions for the next meeting as soon as possible. And finally a massive thank you to those who are supporting this and who attended the meeting!

Kind regards



Sent from my iPad

On 9 Dec 2019, at 3:33 pm, Frost, Simon <Simon.Frost@treasury.gov.au> wrote:

Thanks for your time on the phone just now 

Confirming meeting time of 4pm this Thursday December 12 at Josh Frydenberg's electorate office which is located at 695 Burke Road in Camberwell.

If you can let us know the details of the other members of the medical profession attending that would be great.

I have also copied Colyn onto this note.

Regards,

sf

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