

29 January 2021

The Hon Michael Sukkar MP  
Minister for Housing and Assistant Treasurer  
Australian Department of Treasury

Via [online submission form](#)

Dear Minister

**Re: RANZCP Australian Pre-Budget submission for 2021-22**

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP) welcomes the opportunity provide our views to the Australian Government regarding priorities for the 2021-22 Budget.

The RANZCP has almost 7000 members including around 5100 qualified psychiatrists and more than 1800 members who are training to qualify as psychiatrists. Psychiatrists are clinical leaders in the provision of mental health care in the community and use a range of evidence-based treatments to support a person in their journey of recovery. The RANZCP has prepared its pre-budget submission in consultation with many of our members, including key RANZCP committees comprising psychiatrists, trainees and people in the community who provide their lived experience perspective.

The RANZCP acknowledges the Government's focus on mental health is a once-in-generation opportunity to reform Australia's mental health system so that it meets the needs of all people living in Australia. We want to see people living with mental illness having access to a range of services which meet their needs, so that they can fulfill their potential and improve their quality of life.

This submission incorporates recommendations from the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Mental Health Final Report and identifies solutions and opportunities to improve the mental health of the community through strengthening the mental health workforce, improving the accessibility of services, enhancing person-centred care, focusing on suicide prevention, ensuring older adults receive high-quality care and delivering evidence-based care.

For any queries or to discuss this submission please contact Rosie Forster, Executive Manager, Practice, Policy and Partnerships via [rosie.forster@ranzcp.org](mailto:rosie.forster@ranzcp.org) or by phone on (03) 9601 4943.

Yours sincerely



Associate Professor John Allan  
**President**

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