

30 May 2019

Mr T. James  
Acting Deputy Director-General  
Office of Industrial Relations  
GPO Box 69  
Brisbane QLD 4001  
Via email: [Qleavelevy@oir.qld.gov.au](mailto:Qleavelevy@oir.qld.gov.au)

Dear Mr James,

**RE: Proposed Changes to Q Leave Levies - Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement**

I write in regard to the above consultation and to provide comments in support of the Queensland government's proposal to dedicate funding from the WHS levy towards mental health and suicide prevention strategies for the building and construction industry.

As the *Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement* (RIS) notes, suicide is a significant issue in the building and construction sector. I commend the government for responding with a focus on prevention strategies to address the social and economic impact of suicide within the industry.

I understand that this initiative is the first of its kind in Australia and acknowledge that in proposing this measure the Queensland Government is demonstrating that suicide prevention requires a whole-of-government approach, i.e., that other portfolios, beyond the health department, have a role to play in facilitating suicide prevention measures. This is a very welcome step and aligns with Suicide Prevention Australia's (SPA) Policy Platform.

Although SPA does not have a view on either of the proposed levy mechanisms to achieve the mental health and suicide prevention objective, it is important that the funding is quarantined for the specific purpose as set out in the RIS.

**About SPA**

SPA is the peak body for suicide prevention in Australia, representing over 250 Members and Associates. We work to build a stronger suicide prevention sector, a more aware and engaged community, and a more effective regulatory and funding environment.

If you would like any further information please contact Kylie Ruth, Director – Policy, Advocacy and Government Relations on 02 9262 1130 or email [policy@suicidepreventionaust.org](mailto:policy@suicidepreventionaust.org).

Yours Sincerely,



Nieves Murray  
CEO