



The Hon Emma McBride MP
Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention
Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health
Member for Dobell

Ref No: MC23-017104

Mr Julian Connelly
julian_connelly@hotmail.com

Dear Mr Connelly

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the establishment of trial Soteria houses in Australia. I apologise for the delay in responding.

I thank you for your advocacy on behalf of Australians living with mental ill health. The Australian Government recognises the important role of community mental health services in supporting people to receive the support they need to recover and live independently and safely in their communities.

As you may be aware, under the National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement, all governments have committed to undertaking an analysis of unmet need for psychosocial supports outside of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). The unmet need analysis is currently scheduled to be completed no later than March 2024.

Following completion of the analysis, all governments will work together to develop and agree future psychosocial support arrangements for people who are not supported through the NDIS, including consideration of models for service delivery.

The Minister for Health and Aged Care has also established a Mental Health Reform Advisory Committee to consider mental health reforms from a whole-of-system perspective, including an initial area of focus on solutions for people with complex needs. For more information, please visit the Department of Health and Aged Care's website at www.health.gov.au/committees-and-groups/mental-health-reform-advisory-committee.

Thank you for writing on this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Emma McBride'.

Emma McBride

13 October 2023

cc:Ms Anne Stanley MP, Member for Werriwa