

The Hon Bill Shorten MP
Leader of the Opposition
PO Box 6022
Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600

10 April 2019

Dear Mr Shorten

In the lead up to this important election, I write to ask you to lay out your plans for the mental health of all Australians.

Your plans for the one in five Australians who report serious mental illness each year.

Your plans for the children who, with the right support early, might avoid mental illness.

Your plans for those who, while ill today, could enjoy better mental health tomorrow.

Your plans for the workforce who work tirelessly in a fragmented system, often in the face of unreasonable demands and great policy uncertainty.

Your plans for the families and friends who offer unpaid support as carers.

Your plans for workplaces, where lost productivity and lost opportunities for early intervention leave us with greater human suffering and lesser national productivity than we could otherwise enjoy.

As the Labor party announced last week "we need to take more action on mental health because it is the right thing to do – for Australians living with mental ill health, their families and the broader community".

Australians who will all head to the ballot box in May.

Voters who are all entitled to know what your plans are to address the mental health of all Australians.

And like all Australians, I await your response.

Sincerely



Frank Quinlan
CEO, Mental Health Australia

