



**AUSTRALIAN SENATE**  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee  
Budget Estimates 2017-18  
Friday, 26 May 2017  
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings for the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee considering Budget Estimates 2017-18.

The committee met from 9.00am to 3.03pm.

The committee called the following agencies and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) and the Department of Health for examination of Cross Portfolio Indigenous Matters. Some areas of interest by the committee are listed below:

**Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC)**

- update on acquisitions and divestments;
- examination of agency resourcing, including funding for Northern Territory Real Jobs;
- Indigenous positions at Voyages Indigenous Tourism, including 16 funded positions under NT Real Jobs, of which 7 are filled; and
- non-renewal of office lease for National Congress of Australia's First Peoples and relocation transition assistance.

**Indigenous Business Australia (IBA)**

- 2017-18 Budget – Indigenous Business Sector Strategy, including new funding arrangements for IBA through the Indigenous Advancement Strategy administered by PM&C under a contractual arrangement; and
- new focus on Indigenous entrepreneurs and start-ups.

**Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC)**

- ORIC examination of Winun Ngari Corporation and the issue of a compliance notice;
- trends in incorporation of Indigenous bodies under the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act and the Corporations Act; and
- level of Indigenous staffing.

**Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet - Outcome 2- Indigenous**

- process and timeline for the review of Closing the Gap targets;
- additional funding of \$17.6m to assist Indigenous prisoners to improve access to services prior to release;
- budget funding for Indigenous Protected Areas;

- Community Development Program, including evaluation process and publication of interim report, new employment model for remote areas, youth engagement strategy;
- Remote Housing Strategy;
- consultation on the Budget's Higher Education Reform package;
- Budget measure: Enhanced research and evaluation in Indigenous affairs; and
- Machado Joseph Disease Foundation funding arrangements.

### **Department of Health**

- suicide prevention trial sites;
- syphilis outbreak in Far North Queensland, Kimberley region of WA and Western and Eyre regions of SA; and Multijurisdictional Syphilis Outbreak Working Group; and
- Primary Health Networks' accountability to local Indigenous communities.

The committee completed examination of Cross Portfolio Indigenous Matters.