

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2016-2017 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 2.1 Families and Communities

Question No: SQ17-000055

Topic: National Action Plan

Hansard page: Written

Senator Rachel Siewert asked:

Under the Third Action Plan of the National Plan To Reduce Violence Against Women And Their Children, there is a commitment in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and their children to “[2.4(c)] Improve and expand on current services so they provide intensive, holistic, culturally sensitive responses.” As I understand it, the Government is planning to cut \$18m from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services from 1 July this year. Have you had any engagement with the Attorney-General’s Department who are responsible for this cut?

Answer:

The Department of Social Services, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and the Attorney-General’s Department (AGD) worked closely together on the development of the Third Action Plan, and continue to do so in implementing the Plan.

Funding for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services is the responsibility of the AGD.