

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2012-13 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 7

Question No: 219

Topic: Closing the Gap

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Scullion asked:

The government's 2012 Close the Gap report has shown that improvements are being made in most of the six target outcomes. However disadvantage in justice for indigenous Australians continues to be an area of concern. Why wasn't justice disadvantage identified as one of the original targets in the Closing the Gap initiative?

Answer:

The targets for Closing the Gap were set by the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) in 2008. At that time COAG recognised that overcoming Indigenous disadvantage required a sustained commitment from all levels of government to work together and with Indigenous people, with major effort directed to seven action areas or 'building blocks' including the Safe Communities building block.