

**Community Affairs Committee**

**Examination of Additional Estimates 2007-2008**

**Additional Information Received**

**CONSOLIDATED VOLUME 3**

**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND  
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**

**FaCSIA Outcomes: Cross Outcome, Outcomes 1 to 4**

**18 JUNE 2008**



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELATING TO THE EXAMINATION OF ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2007-2008

Included in this volume are answers to written and oral questions taken on notice and tabled papers relating to the additional estimates hearing on 21 February 2008

**\* Please note that 26 June 2008 is the proposed date for answers to be presented to the President of the Senate where this date is indicated**

### FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

Senator	Quest. No.	Cross outcome	Vol. 3 Page No.	Date tabled in the Senate or presented out of session*
Bernardi	3	FaHCSIA staff	1	15.05.08
Bernardi	4	Indigenous employees by APS level		15.05.08
Bernardi	5-6	Training opportunities for Indigenous graduates		15.05.08
Bernardi	7	Indigenous employees by APS level		15.05.08
Bernardi	8	Senior appointments since election		15.05.08
Bernardi	9	Current number of staff in FaHCSIA		15.05.08
Bernardi	10	Employees at 'EL' level		15.05.08
Bernardi	11-13	Efficiency dividend		15.05.08
Bernardi	14	Department name change costs		15.05.08
Bernardi	15-18	New agencies and programs		15.05.08
Bernardi	19	Average staffing level		15.05.08
Minchin	185	Transfer of funds		15.05.08
Bernardi	2	Indigenous Affairs Branch		15.05.08
Bernardi	1	Election promises		26.06.08
Minchin	182	Appointments made by Government		26.06.08
Minchin	186	Election commitments		26.06.08
Minchin	183	Appointments made by Government		26.06.08
Minchin	184	Grants		26.06.08
<b>Outcome 1: Output group 1.1– Whole-of-government coordination of policy development and service delivery for Indigenous Australians</b>				
Bernardi	24, 26, 30	NTER	26	15.05.08
Siewert	50	Indigenous housing		15.05.08
Siewert	51	Government business Managers		15.05.08
Bernardi	52	Permit system		15.05.08
Bernardi	53, 54	NTER – health checks		15.05.08
Macdonald	55, 56	Permit system		15.05.08
Humphries	145	Indigenous housing policy		15.05.08
Bernardi	29	NTER		15.05.08
Siewert	43	Implementation of 8 point plan		15.05.08
Bernardi	60-65	Controls on pornographic/adult material		15.05.08

Siewert	57	NTER intervention		26.06.08
Bernardi	58, 59	NTER – policing		26.06.08
Bernardi	23, 25	NTER		26.06.08
Siewert	41	Evaluation of the Intervention		26.06.08
Siewert	40	Costs and staff		26.06.08
Siewert	49	Government Business Managers		26.06.08
Bernardi	33	NTER		26.06.08
Bernardi	31	NTER		26.06.08

**Outcome 1: Output group 1.2 – Services for Indigenous Australians**

Allison	133	Petrol sniffing strategy	58	15.05.08
Bernardi	34	Welfare payment reform – Cape York trials		15.05.08
Siewert	39	NT emergency response		15.05.08
Siewert	44, 46	Petrol sniffing strategy		15.05.08
Siewert	48	Government Business Managers		15.05.08
Siewert	80, 81	Municipal services funding for Umoona		15.05.08
Bernardi	85	Shared Responsibility Agreements (SRAs)		15.05.08
Bernardi	87	Indigenous housing		15.05.08
Bernardi	89-97	National Indigenous Council		15.05.08
Bernardi	98	Consultations on Indigenous apology		15.05.08
Bernardi	103	Northern Territory CDEP transition payment		15.05.08
Siewert	108	Child protection workers		15.05.08
Siewert	116, 118	Petrol sniffing strategy		15.05.08
Siewert	121, 122, 124-128	Long grass influx		15.05.08
Bernardi	129	National Indigenous Council		15.05.08
Siewert	130	NTER – safe house program		15.05.08
Siewert	131	NTER – child protection		15.05.08
Bernardi	132	Indigenous Mother's Accommodation Fund		15.05.08
Siewert	135, 137, 139, 140	Petrol sniffing strategy		15.05.08
Bernardi	142	Croc Fest		15.05.08
Siewert	181	Tenders for school holiday camps		15.05.08
Siewert	187	Petrol sniffing strategy		15.05.08
Siewert	45, 47	Diversionary programs		15.05.08
Bernardi	82	Indigenous protected area program		15.05.08
Bernardi	86	Shared Responsibility Agreements (SRAs)		15.05.08
Siewert	112, 113, 117	Petrol sniffing strategy		15.05.08
Siewert	136	NTER – Youth Diversionary program		15.05.08
Siewert	42	Petrol sniffing strategy		26.06.08
Bernardi	88	Indigenous housing		26.06.08
Siewert	66-79	Municipal services funding for Umoona		26.06.08
Bernardi	83	Indigenous Protected Area Program		26.06.08
Siewert	109	Child protection workers		26.06.08
Siewert	110-111	Moving into town		26.06.08
Bernardi	84	Shared Responsibility Agreements (SRAs)		26.06.08
Bernardi	141	CDEP program monitoring		26.06.08
Siewert	123	Long grass influx		26.06.08

	T2 tabled at hearing	FaHCSIA letter re Northern Territory Integrated Youth Services Project Long Form Funding Agreement NT Integrated Youth Services Project application guidelines Petrol Sniffing Strategy application form Northern Territory Integrated Youth Services Project		20.03.08
<b>Outcome 1: Output group 1.3 – Incorporation, regulation and capacity building of Indigenous corporations</b>				
<b>Outcome 2: Output group 2.1 – Support for the Aged</b>				
Patterson	146	Reciprocal public transport concessions for seniors	59	15.05.08
<b>Outcome 2: Output group 2.2 – Support for People with Disabilities</b>				
	T1 tabled at hearing	Answer to Q127 Budget May 07 young people in nursing homes	60	20.03.08
Boyce	148	Parking permits		15.05.08
Bernardi	150, 151	CSTDA		15.05.08
Patterson	152-155, 158	Younger people with disability in residential aged care		15.05.08
Patterson	157	Older carers		15.05.08
Humphries	159	Mental health inquiry – rollout of Indigenous services		15.05.08
Bernardi	160	National Companion Card Scheme		15.05.08
Patterson	156	Younger people with disability in residential aged care		26.06.08
Bernardi	149	CSTDA		26.06.08
<b>Outcome 2: Output group 2.3 – Support for Carers</b>				
<b>Outcome 2: Output group 2.5 – Support for Women</b>				
Nettle	161-174	Support for Victims of people Trafficking Program		15.05.08
Nettle	175	AppointWomen		15.05.08
Adams	176	Women’s Leadership and Development Programme		15.05.08
<b>Senator Quest. No. Outcome 3: Output group 3.1 – Support for Families</b>				
Bernardi	28	Northern Territory emergency Response – income management		15.05.08
Bernardi	28	Northern Territory emergency Response – income management		15.05.08
Siewert	143	NTER income management		15.05.08
Moore	144	Northern Territory emergency Response – income management		15.05.08

**Outcome 3: Output group 3.2 – Child Support**

**Outcome 4: Output group 4.1 – Housing Support**

Payne	177	National affordability rental scheme	15.05.08
Payne	178	CSHA	15.05.08

**Outcome 4: Output group 4.2 – Supporting Financial Management**

Bernardi	179	Equine workers hardship wae supplement payment	15.05.08
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**Outcome 4: Output group 4.3 – Community Recovery**

**Outcome 4: Output group 4.4 – Community Partnership and Delivery**

Bernardi	180	Increase in community engagement appropriation	15.05.08
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**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 003

**Topic:** FaHCSIA Staff

**Hansard Page:** written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

What impact will the efficiency dividend have on Indigenous staffing levels at FaHCSIA?

**Answer:**

The efficiency dividend applies to the entire department not just Indigenous staff. FaHCSIA's approach to managing the efficiency dividend was answered at the Estimates Hearing by Dr Jeff Harmer and is available in the official Hansard, page reference CA4 and CA5.

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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 004

**Topic:** Indigenous Employees by APS Level

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

How many Indigenous Australians are employed at the levels of APS 3-6, EL 1-2 and above SES ?

**Answer:**

As at 28 February 2008

APS 3 – 6	192
EL 1-2	69
SES	6



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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 005

**Topic:** Training Opportunities for Indigenous Graduates

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

What graduate or training opportunities are available to Indigenous graduates with the department?

**Answer:**

Applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander graduates are encouraged through FaHCSIA's graduate COMPASS Programme application processes. FaHCSIA also participates in the APSC Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Graduate Recruitment process.

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 006

**Topic:** Training Opportunities for Indigenous Graduates

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Since the election, how has FaHCSIA been reconstructed given the addition of “housing” to the portfolio?

**Answer:**

The department was already responsible for housing policy prior to the Election. Since the election, a group led by a Band 2 SES officer and comprising four branches has been established within the department consolidating into one group existing housing and homelessness policy and program areas.

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 007

**Topic:** Indigenous Employees by APS Level

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

How many new staff members have been needed to facilitate this addition? Have there been any losses of jobs within the Department? If so, in which areas?

**Answer:**

Staffing for the Housing Group (see answer to Question 6) have come from existing areas of the department, primarily from branches which already had program and policy responsibility for housing and homelessness.

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 008

**Topic:** Senior Appointments since election

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Have there been any new appointments to senior departmental positions since the federal election? If so who? Upon what recommendations? What are their qualifications?

**Answer:**

There have been thirteen senior appointments since the federal election.

Of the thirteen, ten were internal promotions, two were transfers from other Commonwealth Departments, whilst the remaining appointment was an engagement to the Australian Public Service.

All the positions were filled using competitive merit processes. The vacancies were advertised in the Commonwealth Gazette and in the media prior to the election. The processes and appointments were subsequently approved by the Public Service Commissioner.

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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 009

**Topic:** Current number of staff in FaHCSIA

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

What is the current number of staff within the department?

**Answer:**

The number of staff in FaHCSIA as at 28 February 2008 was 3361.

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 010

**Topic:** Employees at “EL” Level

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

What are the staffing numbers within the agencies of the Department? How many are at “EL” (executive) level?

**Answer:**

As at February 2008, the total staffing numbers across all agencies within the portfolio was 3,996.

The number of staff at the “EL” level across the agencies was 1396.

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 011

**Topic:** Efficiency Dividend

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

How is FaHCSIA planning to achieve the Government's promised 2% efficiency dividend?  
Will this affect both departmental and administered expenditure?

**Answer:**

The first part of this question was answered at the Hearing by Dr Jeff Harmer, Hansard reference (CA5). The efficiency dividend only affects departmental expenditure.

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 012

**Topic:** Efficiency Dividend

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

How will the 1.25% annual cumulative cut also affect the operations of the Department?

**Answer:**

This question was answered at the Hearing by Dr Jeff Harmer, Hansard reference (CA4 and 5).



**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 013

**Topic:** Efficiency Dividend

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Will the cumulative 3.25% efficiency dividend begin with the next financial year 2008/09?  
Or are moves underway to meet the efficiency dividend now?

**Answer:**

This question was answered at the Hearing by Dr Jeff Harmer, Hansard reference (CA 4 and 5).

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 014

**Topic:** Department name change costs

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

How much did this name change cost the Government in terms of re branding all materials, letterhead, stationery, business cards, building signs?

**Answer:**

The Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs is progressively updating display and promotional assets at a total cost of approximately \$19,000.

The department is also progressively updating the corporate stationery at a cost of approximately \$45,000.

Changes to building signage are ongoing and estimated to cost \$9,000.

The department's new Internet domain name (*www.fahcsia.gov.au*) was purchased for \$62.

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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 015

**Topic:** New Agencies and Programs

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

FaHCSIA is gaining two programs: the Disability Support Pension and the Community Development and Employment Projects. What percentage of the FaHCSIA appropriations will be directed towards these programs?

**Answer:**

Disability Support Pension and the Community Development and Employment Projects moved to FaHCSIA with their respective appropriations transferred from the (former) Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.

The administered funding for these programs has been transferred and is reflected in FaHCSIA's Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements.

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations and FaHCSIA are currently working through the departmental transfers.

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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 016

**Topic:** New Agencies and Programs

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Will the addition of these programs mean less funding for other FaHCSIA programs? If so, which ones?

**Answer:**

The addition of these programs is not expected to mean less funding for other FaHCSIA programs.

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 017

**Topic:** New Agencies and Programs

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Why is the IBA now under FaHCSIA's portfolio?

**Answer:**

Indigenous Business Australia (IBA) moved from the Employment and Workplace Relations portfolio to the FaHCSIA portfolio in the machinery of government changes following the election.

Decisions relating to the movement of functions and responsibilities between departments and agencies are the responsibility of the Prime Minister.

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 018

**Topic:** New Agencies and Programs

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Why is the EOWA now under the FaHCSIA portfolio?

**Answer:**

The Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency (EOWA) moved from the Employment and Workplace Relations portfolio to the FaHCSIA portfolio in the machinery of government changes following the election.

Decisions relating to the movement of functions and responsibilities between departments and agencies are the responsibility of the Prime Minister.

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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 019

**Topic:** Average Staffing Level

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

With reference to Table 1.7 in the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2007-08 what is the cost associated with the increase on ASL? Why has the ASL been increased?

**Answer:**

The cost associated with the increase in ASL (wages and on-costs) is approximately \$18.7 million.

ASL has been increased to enable FaHCSIA to deliver measures shown in the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements. The measures requiring the greatest number of ASL are:

- Disability Assistance Package;
- Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders; and
- NTER Welfare and Employment (extension of the measure appropriated through the NTER Bills).

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 185

**Topic:** Transfer of Funds

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Minchin** asked:

Please advise any requests to the Department of Finance to move funds within each portfolio.

**Answer:**

Movement of funds are listed in the 2007-08 Portfolio Budget Statements at page 52. Current requests for movement of funds are subject to consideration by the Expenditure Review Committee and as such will be available in the 2008-09 Portfolio Budget Statements.



**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 185

**Topic:** Transfer of Funds

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Minchin** asked:

Please advise any requests to the Department of Finance to move funds within each portfolio.

**Answer: (Amended)**

Refer to part (4) of the response to Senate Question on Notice No. 129.

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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 002

**Topic:** Indigenous Affairs Branch

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

How many FaHCSIA staff members are now employed in the Indigenous Affairs branch or division or section? What proportions of these staff are Indigenous

**Answer:**

There is no specific Indigenous Affairs branch within FaHCSIA. There are a number of branches in the department which work on Indigenous programs and policy.

The number of employees identified as working on Indigenous programs within FaHCSIA as at 28 February 2008 was 974 of which 157 (16.1 per cent) have identified as being Indigenous. It is important to note that some FaHCSIA staff work on both Indigenous and non-Indigenous programs, particularly in the state and territory network.

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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 001

**Topic:** Election Promises

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Can the department provide a complete list of all the election promises relevant to FaHCSIA and the costs of these promises?

**Answer:**

Refer to the answer being provided through the Senate Notice Papers, Question on Notice S164.

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 182

**Topic:** Appointments made by Government.

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Minchin** asked:

Can you please provide all appointments which have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards, with a brief outline of the respective appointee's credentials.

**Answer:**

Refer to part (1) of the response to Senate Question on Notice No. 117.

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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 186

**Topic:** Election Commitments

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Minchin** asked:

Could the department provide a list of the Government's election promises made during the campaign.

**Answer:**

Refer to the answer being provided through the Senate Notice Papers, Question on Notice S164.

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 183

**Topic:** Appointments Made by Government.

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Minchin** asked:

Please provide a list of all vacancies which remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments.

**Answer:**

Refer to part (2) of the response to Senate Question on Notice No. 128.

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** Cross

**Question No:** 184

**Topic:** Grants

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Minchin** asked:

Please provide all grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio.

**Answer:**

Refer to part (3) of the response to Senate Question on Notice No. 128.

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** 1.1

**Question No:** 024

**Topic:** NTER

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Sue Gordon who heads up the NT Emergency Intervention Taskforce has publicly demanded that the Rudd Government accelerate the takeover of federal indigenous communities (“PM urged to save intervention” *The Australian*, 15 January 2008 pg 1). Has the Government considered/actioned this request in light of fears that under the Rudd Government the intervention will be weakened?

**Answer:**

Any expansion of the NT Emergency Response will be considered by the Government in light of the findings of the review that is to be conducted after the end of June 2008.



**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group: 1.1**

**Question No: 026**

**Topic:** NTER

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Have the Terms of Reference for the NT Emergency Response Taskforce been altered in any way since the election of the Rudd Labor Government?

**Answer:**

The terms of reference for the NT Emergency Response have not been altered in any way since the election of the Rudd Government. They can be accessed through the FaHCSIA internet site (<http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/nter/taskforce.htm>).

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group: 1.1**

**Question No: 030**

**Topic:** NTER

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

What about the accommodation for public service employees moving into these communities as part of the intervention? Is it on schedule?

**Answer:**

Yes, it is on schedule.

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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group: 1.1**

**Question No: 050**

**Topic:** Indigenous Housing

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

How many new houses for community members have been constructed in communities since the Intervention began?

**Answer:**

The Australian Government provides funding to the Northern Territory Government to improve Indigenous housing and housing related infrastructure. We have been advised that under the Northern Territory Indigenous Housing Program 72 houses have been constructed.

In addition, 15 houses have been constructed in Wadeye under the National Aboriginal Health Strategy.

A further 20 houses are under construction in the Wadeye outstations of Wudapuli and Nama (ten in each community) and are expected to be completed by August 2008.

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**Question No: 051**

**Topic:** Government Business Managers

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

What are the costs for housing a Government Business Manager on a remote community – including transportation, construction and onsite costs?

**Answer:**

The average one-off cost of providing accommodation for a Government Business Manager in the southern and central region is approximately \$65,000.

The average one-off cost of providing accommodation for a Government Business Manager within the cyclone zone is approximately \$123,000. The cost difference between southern and northern regions is due to transport costs and works required to ensure that the structures are cyclone rated.

Multi user temporary accommodation is provided for all government staff within the remote communities and the costs above are the costs attributed to the Government Business Managers.

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**Question No: 052**

**Topic:** Permit System

**Hansard Page:** CA6

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Can you provide a report on the range of personnel who do not require a permit from the Northern Territory Minister to access communities?

**Answer:**

The following table outlines classes of persons and access requirements to Aboriginal land under the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* (ALRA).

**Access to Aboriginal Land in the Northern Territory**

<b>Class of Person</b>	<b>Area where permit not needed</b>	<b>Legislative arrangements</b>	<b>Conditions</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Governor-General and NT Administrator, relevant candidates for election to, or members of, Commonwealth and NT legislatures	All Aboriginal land	Defence in relation to entering Aboriginal land without a permit (Section 70(2A) of the ALRA)	Must be performing relevant duties	Some in this class of persons may also have entitlements to enter under the <i>Aboriginal Land Act</i> (NT))
Government employees / officers (including police) and contractors engaged by government	All Aboriginal land	Defence in relation to entering Aboriginal land without a permit (Section 70(2A) of the ALRA)	Must be performing government functions or exercising relevant powers	Some in this class of persons may also have entitlements to enter under the <i>Aboriginal Land Act</i> (NT)). Also covered by Authorisation under Section 70(2BB) of the ALRA when working on the Emergency Response

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<p>Medical and other personnel including volunteers working on the Emergency Response</p>	<p>All vested Aboriginal land except sacred sites, land on which there is a dwelling or a camp, and areas leased to persons other than the Commonwealth or the Director of National Parks</p>	<p>Entitlement to enter under Authorisation by the Minister under Section 70(2BB) of the ALRA</p>	<p>Must be performing functions related to the Emergency Response</p>	<p>Authorisation ceases at the end of the Emergency Response period</p>
<p>Members of the public until the Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Emergency Response Consolidation) Bill 2008 (the Bill) is enacted and commences</p>	<p>‘Common areas’ of major communities but not sacred sites, buildings or areas leased under Section 19 of the ALRA</p> <p>Aerodromes that service major communities</p> <p>Landing places (for vessels) that service major communities</p> <p>Roads within major communities</p> <p>Premises on major communities where occupier permits</p>	<p>Entitlement to enter under Section 70F of the ALRA</p> <p>Entitlement to enter under Section 70C</p> <p>Entitlement to enter under Section 70D</p> <p>Entitlement to enter under Section 70E.</p> <p>Section 70(2D) provides a defence in relation to entry on premises on major communities with the permission of the occupier</p>	<p>Entry to land must not be for a purpose that is unlawful</p> <p>Sections 70E and 70F allow for temporary restrictions on entry to roads within major communities and common areas of major communities</p>	<p>No determination has been made under Section 70B and therefore permits are still required to travel on roads (other than public roads) leading to major communities unless the road connects the community to an aerodrome or landing place that services the community</p>

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Journalists	As for members of the public	As for members of the public	As for members of the public	The Minister has indicated that following passage of the Bill she intends to make an authorisation under Section 70(2BB) of the ALRA allowing journalists to visit major communities without a permit under certain conditions
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**Question No: 053**

**Topic:** NTER – Health Checks

**Hansard Page:** written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Can we list what the health checks cover e.g. diabetes?

**Answer:**

A Child Health Check takes a history of medical conditions, including general health, immunisations and development. This is age specific, so the criteria change for different age cohorts. For children aged 12-16, questions about alcohol, tobacco, other substances, mood, self-harm and sexual health (if indicated) apply. Social history such as living conditions is also covered.

A comprehensive examination occurs, which is similar to a thorough check-up by a general practitioner: height, weight, eyes, ears, teeth, skin, heart sounds, lungs and abdomen are checked and the examination also includes some other things like a finger prick blood test for Haemoglobin level (anaemia), and possibly glucose (diabetes) in older children.

At the conclusion of the Child Health Check, the clinician prepares a summary of the major conditions found and an action plan for future care, including writing specialist or allied health referrals. The Child Health Check record becomes part of the client's individual patient file at the health service.



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**Question No: 054**

**Topic:** NTER – Health Checks

**Hansard Page:** CA15

**Senator Allison** asked:

How many children fall within the ‘serious problem’ category of the health checks?

**Answer:**

The Child Health Checks collect data against 95 questions. The data collection does not categorise children according to the ‘seriousness’ of their health status. Treatment was provided for some children at the time of the check

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**Question No: 055**

**Topic:** Permit System

**Hansard Page:** CA19

**Senator Macdonald** asked:

Could you please provide detailed advice to the changes of the Bill being introduced into Parliament re permits.

**Answer:**

The Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Emergency Response Consolidation) Bill 2008 was introduced into the House of Representatives on 21 February 2008. Schedule 3 – Access to Aboriginal land – makes amendments to the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* to repeal the permit system amendments that gave public access to certain Aboriginal land and which came into force on 17 February 2008. The Explanatory Memorandum to the Bill includes a detailed background and explanation of the changes.

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**Question No: 056**

**Topic:** Permit System

**Hansard Page:** CA20

**Senator Macdonald** asked:

Is it legal to charge a consideration for issue of a permit?

**Answer:**

Currently there are various situations in which payment is charged for entry to and use of land which is Aboriginal land under the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* (the ALRA). In general, under the ALRA, Land Trusts may agree to allow people to enter their land in return for a payment.

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**Question No: 145**

**Topic:** Indigenous Housing Policy

**Hansard Page:** CA63

**Senator Humphries** asked:

What level of Indigenous employment exists in the construction industry, preferably by state/territory?

**Answer:**

The Australian Bureau of Statistics 2006 Census data (Table I32) records the number of Indigenous people employed in the construction industry, by state, as:

<b>State</b>	<b>Total Indigenous employees</b>
NSW	2,568
VIC	652
QLD	2,913
SA	327
WA	1,058
TAS	413
NT	356
ACT	98
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,385</b>

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**Question No: 029**

**Topic:** NTER

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Has there been any indication as to whether levels of smoking and drinking (alcohol abuse) have declined in Indigenous communities as a result of welfare quarantining?

**Answer:**

The Review of the Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER), assessing the first 12 months following implementation on 17 September 2007, will examine issues such as the impact of Income Management on the purchase of alcohol and tobacco products.

Income Managed customers are prohibited from using any of the 50 per cent of their quarantined income to buy cigarettes or alcohol, but may spend the remaining 50 per cent at their own discretion.

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**Question No: 043**

**Topic:** Implementation of 8 Point Plan

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

I understand that the WA and SA Government's have withdrawn from the regional strategy – is this correct?

**Answer:**

The Commonwealth Government continues to work with the state governments of SA, WA and NT to implement the 8 Point Petrol Sniffing Plan.

Work is also progressing with the Queensland Government: The Mornington Island/Doomadgee Petrol Sniffing Zone was agreed with them.

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**Question No: 060**

**Topic:** Controls on pornographic/adult material

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Can the Department provide evidence of the effects of the previous Government's approach to the restriction of pornographic material in Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory?

**Answer:**

The pornography bans in Part 10 of the *Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995* commenced on 14 September 2007. Their impact has not been assessed at this stage but the Government has announced that a review of the Northern Territory Emergency Response will be undertaken at the 12-month point.

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**Question No:** 061

**Topic:** Controls on pornographic/adult material

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

How effective have the previous Government's changes already been?

**Answer:**

Please see response to Question No. 060.



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**Question No: 062**

**Topic:** Controls on pornographic/adult material

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Are there any quantifiable results available which would indicate the effectiveness of a restriction on pornography in these communities?

**Answer:**

See response to Question on Notice No. 060.

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**Question No: 063**

**Topic:** Controls on pornographic/adult material

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Is there evidence suggesting a decline in sexual abuse related to the unavailability of pornography?

**Answer:**

Please see response to Question on Notice No. 060.

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**Question No: 064**

**Topic:** Controls on pornographic/adult material

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

With reference to the second reading speech for the Families, Housing, Community Services, and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Emergency Response Consolidation) Bill 2008, it is stated: “Services cannot be declared unless they transmit more than 35 per cent of R18+ program hours over a seven-day period”.

Are there time restrictions on the transmitting of R18+ programs? For example, R18+ programming shown during the day, even if below the 35 per cent mark, is still highly accessible to young children. Who will be consulted? Only the male Indigenous leaders, or will women too? Will there be a review process? If so, when will these reviews take place? (For example every six months, annually).

**Answer:**

There are no time restrictions on when R18+ programs can be shown on a subscription television narrowcasting service in the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* or the relevant industry codes of practice. PIN code access and blocking devices are intended to prevent children accessing R18+ programming.

The Bill does not limit the members of the community who may be consulted. The Bill proposes that opportunities be made available to people in the prescribed area to discuss with departmental officers the proposal to make a determination to stop narrowcasting of R18+ programming in the prescribed area, and the consequences of making such a determination, before the Minister makes a determination. The proposed criteria for making a determination are expressed in terms of the interests of women and children in particular.

The Bill is to be reviewed by the Community Affairs Committee of the Senate; implementation plans, including future review of the R18+ measure, have not been finalised.

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**Question No: 065**

**Topic:** Controls on pornographic/adult material

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

The second reading speech of the Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Emergency Response Consolidation) Bill 2008 states that: “Consistent with the pornography amendments already made to the Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995, this arrangement will include a five year sunset provision”. Why the sunset clause of only a five year period when almost everyone agrees this intervention is a generational event and will take many years to create lasting change?

**Answer:**

The previous Government determined that the emergency response would be time-limited and included a five year sunset provision in its legislation package.

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**Question No: 057**

**Topic:** NTER Intervention

**Hansard Page:** CA24

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Could you provide a breakdown showing how much of the \$168.6 million spent so far on the NTER intervention relates to the administration of the employment and welfare program? Is that all administration with the change over to quarantining?

**Answer:**

The amount budgeted for administration for the employment and welfare reform measure for 2007-08 is \$218.5 million.

As at 31 January 2008, \$72.4 million has been spent under this measure across all participating agencies.

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**Question No: 058**

**Topic:** NTER - Policing

**Hansard Page:** CA30

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

How many communities of a relative size, say 200 plus residents are currently without a permanent police presence?

**Answer:**

Based upon the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2006 - Population Distribution, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians (indigenous geographic and census counts for the Northern Territory), and information provided by the Northern Territory Police, 23 communities were listed as populated by 200 or more indigenous persons and are without a permanent police presence located within the community. In addition, 6 further communities have Aboriginal Community Police Officers (ACPOs) posted.

A number of these communities are regularly serviced by Police located at nearby communities.

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**Question No: 059**

**Topic:** NTER - Policing

**Hansard Page:** CA30

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Of the 50 additional mainstream NT police officers who are currently working as part of the Intervention, how many are Indigenous?

**Answer:**

Nil. Officers were sourced from State Police forces and Australian Federal Police largely through expressions of interest run by the respective Police forces.

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**Question No: 023**

**Topic:** NTER

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

What is the additional \$35.8 million appropriated in the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements (pg 40) being spent on for the NT Emergency response? (\$127,139 - \$91,298 = \$35,841)

**Answer:**

The additional \$35.8 million in Administered Funds appropriated for the Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) Northern Territory (NT) Emergency Response comprises the following:

- \$41.074 million was appropriated for the NT Flexible Funding Pool Special Account, which supports the conversion of Australian and NT Government-related positions from the Community Development Employment Projects program (CDEP) to fully funded jobs;
- Under the Administrative Orders Arrangements \$4.233 million has been transferred from the FaHCSIA NT Emergency Response to the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations NT Emergency Response; and
- In addition, \$1 million was transferred from the FaHCSIA NT Emergency Response to the Attorney-General's Department (AGD) to supplement the Night Patrol Service measures under the AGD NT Emergency Response.



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**Question No: 025**

**Topic:** NTER

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Is the emergency response still on track or has it slowed since the Rudd Government came into office?

**Answer:**

The Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER) has not slowed since the Rudd Government came into office. The present government has affirmed its commitment to continuing the roll-out of the NTER. Some adjustments to the implementation schedule have been necessary because the recruitment of sufficient numbers of appropriate staff has taken longer than expected, and because there has been a lack of existing appropriate infrastructure in most remote communities.

Apart from minor adjustments due to the moratorium in December 2007 on phasing out the Community Development Employment Program and the decision to revoke the changes to the permit system, the implementation of all measures under the NTER has continued as originally intended.

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**Question No: 041**

**Topic:** Evaluation of the Intervention

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

What is happening to monitor and evaluate the success of the Intervention? Have performance indicators and target outcomes been set?

**Answer:**

The Government has committed to an independent 12-month review of the Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER) be completed later this year.

Monitoring of the NTER is quarterly and a range of performance indicators have been set.

Indicators such as school attendance, housing, employment and health status are being monitored together with a range of progress indicators including school nutrition, child health checks, community cleanups, roll out of income management, safe houses, night patrols and licensing of community stores.

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**Question No: 040**

**Topic:** Costs and Staff

**Hansard Page:** written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

How many new staff have been recruited as part of the intervention?  
Can you provide a breakdown of their roles and agencies?

**Answer:**

At 30 May 2008, 51 Government Business Managers (GBMs) had been recruited and were in place servicing 72 communities. The role of the GMS is to assist with the local implementation of the emergency response. They work cooperatively with communities, organisations and the Northern Territory Government to achieve positive outcomes for Indigenous people.

A Fact Sheet on GBMs is available at:

[http://www.facsia.gov.au/nter/docs/factsheets/community\\_improvements/factsheet\\_govt\\_business.htm](http://www.facsia.gov.au/nter/docs/factsheets/community_improvements/factsheet_govt_business.htm)

Between July 2007 and 3 April 2008, 5 staff were engaged by the education element of DEEWR and around 15 staff were recruited by the employment element of DEEWR as part of the NT Emergency Response (NTER) intervention. The majority of DEEWR staff who are currently working in NTER related roles in DEEWR's National Offices and NT offices have been sourced internally from existing DEEWR staff and not recruited specifically for these roles.

The 5 staff employed by the education element of DEEWR were engaged to assist with the implementation of the School Nutrition Program. The 15 staff employed in the employment element of DEEWR were engaged to assist in a range of administrative, management, liaison, secretariat, HR, policy advice and training support services in relation to the NT Emergency Response.

As at 29 February 2008, 40 new staff had been recruited by Centrelink as part of the NTER. Their roles include: 1 social worker, 9 helpdesk support staff for third party organisations, 4 staff for business support for store-value cards including monitoring and distribution of stock to all national sites and 26 staff for the processing of income management payments and community switch-ons.

The Australian Crime Commission received funding for 16.3 full time staff under 07/08 NTER funding. The following staff numbers have been recruited into positions including: 7 analysts, Darwin office manager and 4 intelligence support officers. A lawyer and examiner have been partially funded by the NTER appropriation and NTER funds have also

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contributed to the employment of a project Manager, assistant project manager, technical writer, 3 developers and a business analyst for the Child Abuse Desk.

6 people were engaged by the Department of Health and Ageing to work on the NTER through formal recruitment processes. These positions are responsible for assisting with workforce selection and management, undertaking initial community surveys, supporting the provision of training for Child Health Check teams, accompanying the Child Health Check teams to communities and provision of field support, ongoing liaison with communities and health services and contract negotiation and management.

3 additional Attorney General's Department (AGD) staff members were recruited in the Indigenous Justice and Legal Assistance Division to manage the implementation of Law and Order measures for which AGD is responsible. These include: a principal Legal Officer, a director, an assistant director and a project officer.

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**Question No: 049**

**Topic:** Government Business Managers

**Hansard Page:** written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

How many other Federal government staff have been employed in prescribed communities? Which agencies are they from, in which communities and what is their role? Has there been a high rate of staff turnover and stress leave?

**Answer:**

43 Community Employment Brokers (CEBs) are currently employed by DEEWR for placement in 64 of the 73 prescribed communities under the NT Emergency Response measures.

CEBs are employed by DEEWR. CEBs are placed throughout NT communities to help ensure employment programs and services are delivered effectively within each community. CEBs work on the ground within communities, generally as a live-in presence and in a live-in capacity where accommodation is provided in the community. CEBs work with Indigenous job seekers, employment service providers, Centrelink, and Government Business Managers (GBMs) to achieve the highest level of employment related support for residents who are job seekers.

In relation to the Australian Crime Commission's National Indigenous Intelligence Task Force (NIITF); NIITF staff are not employed in prescribed communities. Staff are employed nation-wide and deployed across Australia, including into prescribed communities, as part of a planned series of operational activities to Indigenous communities.

There has not been a high rate of staff turnover and stress leave for Government Business Managers.

There has not been a high rate of CEB turnover due to staff leave. The turnover rate for CEBs can be attributed to the short-term nature of many of the CEB placements (funding was provided for one year only).

As a means of managing instances where stress may be involved, DEEWR has employed a Staff Support Worker who provides ongoing pastoral care and support to CEBs.

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**Question No: 033**

**Topic:** NTER

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Are there any plans to extend the intervention to all of Australia, particularly the bad areas in WA, SA (Pit Lands) and QLD (Cape York Community)?

**Answer:**

Any decision about the Australian Government undertaking major changes in policy in other jurisdictions will be made in light of the evidence from the review of the Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER) and the success of existing partnerships with State Governments.

The NTER review will be independent and transparent and will occur after 12 months to assess what is working.

The Government has committed to partnerships with the States and this is evident in joint work already in train.

- The Australian and Queensland Governments are working closely together to facilitate a trial of 'welfare reform' measures on four Cape York communities – Aurukun, Hope Vale, Coen and Mossman Gorge – expected to commence in mid 2008.
  - They involve the introduction of incentives and supports to encourage individuals to meet family and community obligations of sending children to school, ensuring income is expended on rent, food and other essentials, not offending and ensuring the safety of their children.
  - The trials will differ from the NTER in that the governing bodies of the communities have voluntarily 'opted in' to the regime. Further, compulsory income management, where it occurs, will be the result of deliberations on individual cases by the Family Responsibilities Commission in response to a trigger event.
- Also, the Government is working with the West Australian Government on trials of income management to address poor parenting and community behaviours in the Kimberley region and Cannington in metropolitan Perth. Western Australian child welfare authorities will have the capacity to refer parents who are neglecting, or at risk of neglecting their children to Centrelink for Income Management where this is of benefit in addressing harmful parental behaviours.

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- In response to South Australian Commission of Inquiry into Children on APY (Anangu, Pitjantjatjara and Yankunytjatjara) Lands – the second part of the Mullighan Inquiry - the Rudd Government has announced:
  - \$15 million for additional police station and staff housing for an additional 8 police officers and 5 child protection workers , on top of the \$25 million housing package to the South Australian Government to build new houses and upgrade existing houses and manage the housing as public housing;
  - \$2.8 million for the Wiltja Residential Program – from the Indigenous Boarding Hostels Partnership Initiative to provide further educational opportunities for Anangu ; and
  - \$1.3 million for further mental health services under the Personal Helpers and Mentors Program.

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**Output Group: 1.2**

**Question No: 031**

**Topic:** NTER

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Is the expenditure on track to prescribed communities?

**Answer:**

Yes. In recent months there has been a major advance in both achievements and resources invested. Since November last year, health checks of children have almost doubled and income management has been taken up in 50 communities. From February to April the average spend has increased to \$39 million per month from the previous average of \$24 million.



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**Question No: 133**

**Topic:** Petrol Sniffing Strategy

**Hansard Page:** CA 39

**Senator Allison** asked:

How many communities in the central desert do not have Opal fuel?

**Answer:**

The Australian Government does not hold lists of all of the communities within the Central Desert that do not stock or sell petrol.

Opal Fuel is available in 24 communities and 14 commercial outlets in Central Australia Petrol Sniffing (tri state) Zone.

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**Output Group:** 1.2

**Question No:** 034

**Topic:** Welfare Payment Reform – Cape York Trials

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

With reference to Table 1.4 from the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2007-08, Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs:

- Why has funding been cut from this initiative?
- Will this cut result in the loss of ‘Real’ jobs?
- Will this effect the welfare payments of Cape York residents?
- Will these cuts result in the dismantling of this Welfare Reform?
- The Australian Government had committed to a 4 year trial; will these cuts consequently shorten the trial of this reform?

**Answer:**

Funding has not been cut. The Government’s funding commitments to the Cape York trials remains unchanged. While there are overall reductions in expenditure in this portfolio, they are offset by increased spending in other portfolios, reflecting adjustments to portfolio expenditure following the machinery of government changes. Reductions in CDEP expenditures in this portfolio are offset by increased expenditure in other portfolios – particularly employment services programmes and income support payments.

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**Output Group: 1.2**

**Question No: 039**

**Topic:** NT Emergency Response

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

How much longer will other states and territories continue to commit the deployment of police officers in the NT?

**Answer:**

All states and the ACT were asked to contribute police officers for deployment to the NT as part of the emergency response for a 6 month period. The ACT and Western Australia declined to participate.

All other states have contributed police for 6 months except NSW who did a 4 month deployment. Most state deployments have or will shortly be completed. Victoria was the last state to arrive in the NT and their deployment will finish in the middle of 2008.

The Australian Federal Police have had officers on deployment to the NT Police since the commencement of the NTER. As state police finish their deployments they are being replaced with additional AFP officers. By 1 July 2008 the AFP will have 66 officers deployed to the NT as per the Government commitment.

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**Question No: 044**

**Topic:** Petrol Sniffing Strategy

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

Can you provide an update on what diversion programs are running – who is running them?

**Answer:**

Under the 8 Point Petrol Sniffing Strategy in the Northern Territory, youth diversion programs are being run in the four communities of Mutijulu, Imanpa, Docker River and Finke. Mission Australia has been funded to provide youth diversion activities that promote healthy lifestyles and alternative activities to substance abuse, and Education Outreach services to assist at risk youth return to school.

In the Ngaanyatjarra lands in Western Australia, FaHCSIA has provided funds for the construction of youth worker accommodation and a contribution towards the salaries of 8 youth workers. The Ngaanyatjarra Shire provides the ongoing management of the youth network positions and infrastructure (duplex accommodation).

In the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands in South Australia regular multi-sports activities for young people are provided throughout the year; structured inter-community sports competitions run across APY communities; including training and development for local people to coach, umpire and run the sporting activities and structured competitions locally. These activities are run by the South Australian National Football League (SANFL) and Softball Australia.

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**Question No: 046**

**Topic:** Petrol Sniffing Strategy

**Hansard Page:**

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Will the new Shire Councils in the region be the preferred providers of youth services as a way of developing local capacity? Or will a tender process be undertaken that will result in another interstate provider being selected with a subsequent loss of local capacity?

**Answer:**

All procurement processes undertaken by FaHCSIA are conducted in compliance with the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* and the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines.

FaHCSIA also enters into partnership with other Australian Government agencies and with state and local government bodies where such partnerships provide opportunities for more effective program delivery.

The Government is committed to supporting local capacity and employment through the selection of service providers with the ability to support and fully engage the local client base.

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**Question No: 048**

**Topic:** Government Business Managers

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Can you clarify the role of the government business managers?

**Answer:**

Government Business Managers (GBMs) are appointed in Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory as part of the Government's response to the national emergency.

GBMs are the single face of the Australian Government at the local community level. The GBMs exercise a leadership role in coordinating Australian Government work at the community level to ensure the effective whole-of-government delivery of services in communities and to maximise the benefits to the community of Australian Government funding provided to the community.

They:

- provide the key liaison and consultation point in communities, including communicating the NT emergency response measures at the local level, engaging with acknowledged and respected elders, and working collaboratively with other Australian and NT Government and local government agency representatives on the ground;
- manage and co-ordinate on a day-to-day basis the activities of staff from different Australian Government agencies based in the community. Each agency's staff also maintain agency line reporting relationships, but carry out their work under GBM guidance so as to:
  - optimise timing, sequencing and connections with other initiatives being pursued by the Australian Government; and
  - ensure effective and orderly engagement with the community;
- are key sources of local information to the Emergency Response Taskforce Operations Centre and Australian Government agencies about progress of the emergency measures, government-funded service delivery and issues impacting on the local communities. Their knowledge informs and guides coordinated government action and decision making that is tailored to the on-the-ground needs of the community.

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The role of GBMs will evolve over time as the emergency response moves into its next phases and as the roll-out of local government reforms in the NT take place:

- in the first phase of the emergency response (stabilisation), GBMs are primarily supporting the implementation of emergency response measures. In many cases this involves advising government agencies and liaising with people on the ground, along with other key activities.
- into the medium term (normalisation phase), the focus will be more on improving cross government coordination, monitoring and management, to more effectively deliver services to communities – such as assisting with the roll-out of the Australian Remote Indigenous Accommodation (ARIA) program.

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**Question No: 080**

**Topic:** Municipal Services funding for Umoona

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Has there been any evaluation of how effective these new arrangements have been?

**Answer:**

There has not been a formal evaluation of these arrangements. The Department works closely with Indigenous community organisations, relevant local government units and other stakeholders to monitor the new arrangements, to ensure Indigenous people receive an equitable service.



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**Question No: 080**

**Topic:** Municipal Services funding for Umoona

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Has there been any evaluation of how effective these new arrangements have been?

**(Amended) Answer:**

The Australian Government is committed to working with all parties to see reforms to municipal services funding achieve effective outcomes for Indigenous people. The Department is holding discussions and works closely with Indigenous community organisations, relevant local government units and other stakeholders to continuously evaluate and improve current service delivery arrangements to affected Indigenous communities.

It is acknowledged that the municipal services funding reforms represent a significant change from the funding practices of the past. The reforms are designed to achieve better outcomes for Indigenous people.

The new arrangements are based on the normalisation of mainstream local government services for those Indigenous communities located within local government council areas and in the case of communities such as Umoona, those situated in close proximity to township areas. It is important to understand that Municipal Services funding was provided to supplement the efforts of state, territory and local governments. The reality however is that the Municipal Services-related arrangements have over time, taken on a primary role.

The normalisation approach is based on ensuring that Indigenous Australians have access to the same type of services as other Australians wherever this is possible. In the case of communities such as Umoona, it involves local government councils taking responsibility for service provision to those Indigenous communities located within their jurisdictional area.

The Department will continue to work closely with Indigenous community organisations, relevant local government units and other stakeholders to monitor the new arrangements, to ensure Indigenous constituents receive an equitable service.

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**Question No:** 081

**Topic:** Municipal Services funding for Umoona

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

What steps has FaHCSIA taken, or do you intend to take, to monitor the effectiveness of these funding arrangements in 2007/08?

**Answer:**

FaHCSIA will monitor these arrangements as part of its standard funding process.

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**Question No:** 085

**Topic:** Shared Responsibility Agreements (SRAs)

**Hansard Page:** written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

If SRAs were agreed to in response to the Indigenous community's request, does the Government still intend to stop them?

**Answer:**

The Government will meet its obligations under any Shared Responsibility Agreements signed with Indigenous communities.

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**Question No: 087**

**Topic:** Indigenous Housing

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

In a media release dated 16 January 2008 Minister Macklin stated that the Government is providing funding for housing in the Northern Territory in the 2007-08 financial year, through the Aboriginal Rental Housing Program and Community Housing and Infrastructure Program (CHIP). Minister Macklin said that the funding will allow the Northern Territory Government to construct 126 new houses and provide upgrades to a further 163 houses. What sorts of upgrades are needed for the 163 houses? Are the upgrades needed because of general wear and tear, or because of tenant damage?

**Answer:**

The majority of upgrades are required due to general wear and tear. This wear and tear is exacerbated by the very high level of overcrowding in remote communities.

As with all social housing, some damage is the responsibility of tenants. Indigenous Community Housing Organisations (ICHOs) currently manage the housing and each has their own policies and procedures to charge for 'tenant responsibility' damage.

We note that the *'State of Health Hardware in Aboriginal Communities in Rural and Remote Australia'* study published in the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health reported that only 10 per cent of required repairs are as a result of damage or misuse, with the major cause of house failure a lack of routine maintenance and poor initial construction.

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**Question No: 089**

**Topic:** National Indigenous Council

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

The National Indigenous Advisory Council was wound up by Minister Macklin upon the expiration of its term on 31 Dec 2007 despite the Minister acknowledging its influential and supportive role for Indigenous Australians.

Who/what will carry out the NIAC's functions?

**Answer:**

The Government will set up a national Indigenous representative body.

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**Question No: 090**

**Topic:** National Indigenous Council

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Who/what will provide advice and communications between the Government and indigenous Australians in the interim?

**Answer:**

The Government is consulting with a broad range of stakeholders on a variety of issues, for example, the Stolen Generations Alliance and the National Sorry Day Committee about the apology, and Indigenous leaders in the Northern Territory about the Northern Territory Emergency Response.

There is a range of sector specific Indigenous organisations and formal advisory mechanisms involving Indigenous experts which continue to inform the Government's policy development and delivery.

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**Question No:** 091

**Topic:** National Indigenous Council

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

How is this being funded?

**Answer:**

It is being funded through existing appropriations.

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**Question No:** 092

**Topic:** National Indigenous Council

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

What were the costs of winding up the NIAC?

**Answer:**

Nil.



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**Question No:** 093

**Topic:** National Indigenous Council

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Have staff been redeployed within Indigenous Affairs or have they received payouts? How much were these payouts? On what formula were they calculated?

**Answer:**

All ongoing secretariat staff have been redeployed within FaHCSIA, no payouts were required.

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**Question No:** 094

**Topic:** National Indigenous Council

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

What is the progress on the setting up of a new indigenous body?

**Answer:**

The Government will be undertaking consultations prior to making a decision on the nature of the new body.

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**Question No:** 095

**Topic:** National Indigenous Council

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

What will be the differences between the new representative body and the old ATSIC?

**Answer:**

The Government will not be establishing a new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC).

The nature of the new representative body will be determined following the consultation process with Indigenous people.

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**Question No: 096**

**Topic:** National Indigenous Council

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Did the NIAC own any assets? If so, what is to be done with them?

**Answer:**

The National Indigenous Council did not own any assets.

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**Question No:** 097

**Topic:** National Indigenous Council

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Was any ex-gratia payment made to Councillors owing to their sudden disposition?

**Answer:**

No. NIC members were paid per diem sitting fees in accordance with the Remuneration Tribunal's Determination: Remuneration and Allowances for Holders of Part-Time Public Office – Category 3 Tier 2. The term of appointments of NIC members expired in December 2007.

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**Question No: 098**

**Topic:** Consultations on Indigenous Apology

**Hansard Page:** written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

What percentage Output 1.2's appropriations were allocated towards the consultations on the Indigenous Apology? Of these costs what percentage was spent on outsourcing?

Appropriations have been allocated for the 'Consultation' of an Indigenous Apology, however where did the funding come from for the event?

Kevin Rudd said in an interview with Laurie Oakes (Sunday, 10 Feb 08) that the Federal Government decided to bring a representative group of 100 to Canberra for the official apology, and that the Federal, State and Territory Governments will be paying for this. What were the costs associated with transporting Indigenous Australians to the event?

What were the costs associated with accommodating Indigenous Australians for the event?

What percentage of the total cost did the Federal Government pay?

**Answer:**

Less than one quarter of one per cent of Output 1.2 Administered Appropriation was allocated towards the consultations on the Indigenous Apology. There was no outsourcing. Funding came from within existing appropriations.

The costs associated with transporting Indigenous Australians to Canberra for the event were \$109,098. The accommodation costs (including meals and transfers) were \$58,500.

The Australian Government is meeting 50 per cent of the total costs.

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**Question No: 103**

**Topic:** Northern Territory CDEP Transition Payment

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

The amendments to the Social Security Act presented in Schedule 3 of the Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Welfare Payment Reform) Bill 2007 allow for the creation of a Northern Territory CDEP transition payment. It is to provide financial assistance payments for those moving from closed CDEP payment arrangements to other mainstream income support payments provided under the SSA. Now that the CDEP program will be reinstated, what is the effect on these transition payments? Are they still occurring? If not, what financial assistance are indigenous people affected by these changes now receiving?

**Answer:**

The Transition Payment makes up the difference between average earnings from CDEP Scheme payments plus income support payments at 23 July 2007 (being the date of announcement of the CDEP changes in the Northern Territory) and the payments made under income support arrangements after the changes to CDEP. Broadly, the payment assists eligible individuals to manage any changes in income that may have resulted from their move to income support.

The CDEP changes occurred on a provider by provider basis. Sixteen providers were issued with a Northern Territory CDEP Transition Day at which time CDEP Scheme participants ceased to be paid CDEP Scheme payments. The Transition Payment was available to effected people in the Northern Territory who were receiving CDEP scheme payments on 23 July 2007. The payment remains payable to eligible participants until 30 June 2008.

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**Question No: 108**

**Topic:** Child Protection Workers

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

What additional resources has the Commonwealth provided for child protection workers?

**Answer:**

The Commonwealth has committed \$2 million in 2007-08 to assist the Northern Territory Government to establish new mobile protection teams and recruit Aboriginal family and community workers. There will be a total of ten to twelve experienced child protection workers, ten Aboriginal family and community workers, and three additional coordinators for these workers.



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**Question No:** 116

**Topic:** Petrol Sniffing Strategy

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Can you explain why an inexperienced provider with no record of delivering services to these communities would be preferred over existing providers with an excellent record of delivering services and achieving outcomes?

**Answer:**

All tenderers were judged against the criteria outlined in the tender documents. The Tender Evaluation Panel judged that the Mission Australia tender met the requirements of the project against the criteria more completely than other tenderers.

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**Question No: 118**

**Topic:** Petrol Sniffing Strategy

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

What are you doing to build capacity in this area?

**Answer:**

The Integrated Youth Services Project builds capacity in the four communities Finke (Aputula), Imanpa, Mutitjulu and Docker River (Kaltukatjara) through:

- Building the confidence, self reliance, leadership skills and life skills of young people in the communities by intensively engaging with them so that they take responsibility for their own care and development and move away from welfare dependency;
- Counteracting negative influences, including those related to substance abuse, by engaging young people in a range of culturally, age and gender appropriate educational, social, cultural and recreational activities;
- Helping young people to build on, and in some cases re-build, their learning pathways to literacy and numeracy and other forms of accredited training by engaging with them in a partnership over time;
- Helping communities to address the effects of substance abuse in young people and build community resilience by engaging with communities in a partnership over time; and
- Assisting young people to achieve the education, life skills and employability skills they need for them to participate autonomously and fully in learning, work and community life.

Under the terms of the Integrated Youth Services Project funding agreement, the service provider must:

- Employ one male and one female local Anangu youth worker, from within the relevant community, to be trained as required, to assist with service delivery;
- Employ one male and one female local Anangu youth worker/administrative officer trainee;
- Employ up to four local Anangu in each community to be trained as youth and administration support workers; and
- Establish governance arrangements and links to communities, families, and young people in the four communities including:
  - Local Youth Committees; and
  - An overarching Youth Advisory Board.

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**Question No:** 121

**Topic:** Long Grass Influx

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Are OATSI aware of reports by service providers of a dramatic increase in Aboriginal people from remote communities now living rough in the 'Long Grass' camps around Darwin, and of similar stories from Alice Springs and Katherine? [Larrakia Nation report documented a 20% increase in 4 weeks Sept 07] Are they aware of this report?

**Answer:**

FaHCSIA is aware of this report.

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**Question No:** 122

**Topic:** Long Grass Influx

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Have they been contacted by other service delivery providers?

**Answer:**

We believe that service providers have contacted the NT Government.

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**Question No:** 124

**Topic:** Long Grass Influx

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

What are the documented rates of 'primary homelessness' for Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs? How does this compare to the rate prior to the Intervention?

**Answer:**

The Supported Accommodation Assistance Program provides assistance to people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless through a range of support and transitional accommodation services. This program is jointly funded by the Australian and state and territory governments. The program is administered in the Northern Territory by the Northern Territory Department of Health and Community Services. Data is collected on an annual basis, however, no data is collected for specific locations. The most recent publicly available data is for 2003/04.

FaHCSIA is unaware of any work comparing rates of homelessness in Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs before the Northern Territory Emergency Response with the current situation.

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**Question No:** 125

**Topic:** Long Grass Influx

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

What analysis have you conducted or are you conducting?

**Answer:**

It is the responsibility of the Northern Territory Government to provide data on this matter for analysis.

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**Question No: 126**

**Topic:** Long Grass Influx

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

What do you plan to do in response to this issue?

**Answer:**

Mission Australia is funded by the Australian Government to deliver the Itinerant Outreach Program – Grass Roots Solutions to people living in long grass camps around the Darwin and Palmerston areas. The program provides case management initiatives including access to health, accommodation, medical services, referral options, drug and alcohol rehabilitation options, crisis, medium and long term accommodation, proof of identification, education and advocacy to ensure maintenance of Centrelink benefits, provision of food and clothing, and return to country options. Funding to Mission Australia for this program has been provided to 30 June 2009.

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**Question No:** 127

**Topic:** Long Grass Influx

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Were you warned prior to the NT intervention of the likely influx of people from remote communities? What strategies were put in place to respond to this issue?

**Answer:**

Implementation of the NT Emergency Response commenced immediately after the former Prime Minister's announcement on 21 June 2007. The department did not receive any warnings about a likely influx of people from remote communities prior to the commencement of the intervention



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**Question No:** 128

**Topic:** Long Grass Influx

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

What level of additional funding was provided to service providers to tackle increased demand for food, accommodation, medical treatment, advocacy etc?

**Answer:**

These are primarily matters for the NT Government. Considerable funding has been provided under the Northern Territory Emergency Response to address health needs of Indigenous people, housing etc, as detailed in various announcements by the Australian Government over the past 8 months.

As noted in the response to Question 126, Mission Australia is funded by the Australian Government to deliver the Itinerant Outreach Program – Grass Roots Solutions to people living in long grass camps around the Darwin and Palmerston areas. The program provides case management initiatives including access to health, accommodation, medical services, referral options, drug and alcohol rehabilitation options, crisis, medium and long term accommodation, proof of identification, education and advocacy to ensure maintenance of Centrelink benefits, provision of food and clothing, and return to country options. Funding to Mission Australia for this program has been provided to 30 June 2009.

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**Question No:** 129

**Topic:** National Indigenous Council

**Hansard Page:** CA11

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Can you provide me with the name of the experts groups that form the National Indigenous Council?

**Answer:**

The National Indigenous council comprised members who had expertise in a wide variety of areas. There was no separate expert group beyond the members themselves.

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**Question No: 130**

**Topic:** NTER – Safe House Program

**Hansard Page:** CA32

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Is the community part of establishing a safe house in Tangentyere? Could you also provide a list of the 15 communities with safe houses?

**Answer:**

The safe house which is to be expanded is located in Alice Springs, not in the town camp. The Northern Territory Government has consulted with a range of stakeholders in developing plans to expand this safe house, including Tangentyere Council.

At this stage the communities which are scheduled to benefit from new safe houses under the NTER measure are: Angurugu, Alyangula, Apatula, Hermannsburg, Kalkarindji/Daguragu, Lajamanu, Maningrida, Nguiu, Ngukurr, Peppimenarti, Ramingining, Ti Tree, Pmara Jujunta, Wugalarr/Beswick, Yarralin and Yuendumu. Of these, the safe house in Yuendumu is fully operational and those in Peppimenarti, Pmara Jujunta, Apatula and Hermannsburg are close to final completion.

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**Question No: 131**

**Topic:** NTER - Child Protection

**Hansard Page:** CA35

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Can you provide me with a list of those 10 communities who have Aboriginal family and community workers? Could you provide the committee a list of places that they will be working? Where will the 10-12 workers mobile workers be based?

**Answer:**

To date, five communities have been approved by the Australian Government to have Aboriginal family and community workers: Nguuu; Beswick; Ntaria; Papunya and Yuendumu.

Consultation is continuing to determine the best locations for the remaining Aboriginal family and community workers. The workers will be divided between Central Australian and Top End regions.

There will be two mobile child protection teams. They will be based in Darwin and Alice Springs and provide services across remote areas of the Northern Territory.

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**Question No: 132**

**Topic:** Indigenous Mother's Accommodation Fund

**Hansard Page:** CA37

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

How many existing facilities are there?

**Answer:**

There are currently three facilities funded by the Australian Government which provide accommodation targeted to Indigenous mothers from remote areas. The Department of Health and Ageing advises there are no such facilities funded by the state and territory governments.

The Women's Medical Hostel at the Katherine Hospital in the Northern Territory is operated directly by Aboriginal Hostels Limited. Aboriginal Hostels Limited also provides funding to the community-operated Mookai Rosie Bi-Bayan facility at Cairns in Queensland and the Nyaparu Rose Mirtawanjarrinmili Maya Hostel at Port Hedland in Western Australia.

Indigenous mothers can also access Aboriginal Hostels Limited's medical transient and general transient hostels located around Australia.

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**Question No:** 135

**Topic:** Petrol Sniffing Strategy

**Hansard Page:** CA42

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Can you provide the cost of the Central Australian Petrol Sniffing Strategy Unit in Alice Springs?

**Answer:**

The departmental budget for the Northern Territory Central Australian Petrol Sniffing Strategy Unit for 2007-08 is \$498,200.

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**Question No:** 137

**Topic:** Petrol Sniffing Strategy

**Hansard Page:** CA46

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Have Mission Australia previous experience in providing youth services in central Australia?

**Answer:**

Mission Australia has previous experience in delivering services to Indigenous communities in other parts of Australia (including Queensland and the Top End including Katherine).

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**Question No:** 139

**Topic:** Petrol Sniffing Strategy

**Hansard Page:** CA47

**Senator Siewert** asked:

In how many communities do we still not have adequate accommodation for their youth workers?

**Answer:**

Temporary youth accommodation is in place in communities of Imanpa, Finke, Docker River and Mutitjulu. It is anticipated that permanent accommodation will be in place by July 2008.



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**Question No: 140**

**Topic:** Petrol Sniffing Strategy

**Hansard Page:** CA48

**Senator Adams** asked:

Could you give us an indication of the expertise of those people who are doing the evaluation of the petrol sniffing?

**Answer:**

There are currently 2 evaluation projects being undertaken by FaHCSIA on the Petrol Sniffing Strategy.

The first is the *Review of the first phase of the Petrol Sniffing Strategy*. The Review, currently being conducted by Urbis, will cover the period between the announcements of the September 2005 decision to implement the Petrol Sniffing Strategy to 2007.

The proposed length of the contract is four (4) months and will comprise of a literature review of departmental files and information together with interviews with key government stakeholders and representatives of some of the communities involved in the Strategy.

Information on Urbis and their expertise can be found on their web page at:

<http://www.urbis.com.au/>

The second evaluation project is the *Petrol Sniffing Strategy - Evaluation Framework*. Courage Partners have been contracted to design and develop a comprehensive evaluation framework. This will cover the process, impact, and outcome evaluation of a range of strategies currently being implemented to address petrol sniffing in remote Indigenous communities – the PSS Evaluation Framework (the Framework).

Information on Courage Partners and their expertise can be found on their web page at:

<http://www.couragepartners.com.au/default.htm>

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**Question No: 142**

**Topic:** Croc Fest

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi asked:**

Has FaHCSIA had any involvement in the cutting of funds for Croc Fest?

**Answer:**

No. As lead Australian Government agency, Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) takes all decisions regarding funding for Croc Fest.

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**Question No: 181**

**Topic:** Tenders for School Holiday Camps

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Why was there no public tender for delivery of the school holiday program delivered by Red Sun Solutions in January, 2008? How much was this private provider funded for the four weeks of services? Why was there no consultation prior to appointing Red Sun Solutions?

**Answer:**

On 27 July 2007, the Secretary of the department approved the use of simplified departmental procurement guidelines to support the Government's response to the national emergency in the Northern Territory. Urgency and the need to protect human health were the key drivers. This involved a departure from open tender arrangements in favour of a direct source tender, after informal consultations with potential service providers in the region.

The Central Australian School Holiday Program formed part of the Northern Territory Emergency Response Youth Alcohol Diversion Strategy. The strategy was approved for implementation in November 2007. Communities in the Central Desert Region were contacted by staff in FaHCSIA to assess the level of service delivery of youth activities during the extended school break, and this information was used in decisions about where the December/January School Holiday Program should be targeted.

The services of Red Sun Solutions were procured as the selected provider using the above method, enabling programs to be delivered during the December 2007/January 2008 school holidays, at a cost of \$400,000 Exclusive of GST.

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**Question No: 187**

**Topic:** Petrol Sniffing Strategy

**Hansard Page:** CA48

**Senator Siewert asked:**

Will the Urbis Consulting report on the Petrol Sniffing Strategy be made public?

**Answer:**

The Urbis Evaluation project is primarily for internal monitoring purposes. Any decision on public release will be a matter for the Government.

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**Question No: 045**

**Topic:** Diversionary Programs

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Which regions and communities in the extended 8 point plan zone are still without full time youth/diversion programmes? What plans are there to extend diversionary programs to these areas?

**Answer:**

Under the 8 Point Petrol Sniffing Strategy, full time youth workers are in place in the communities of Imanpa, Finke, Docker River and Mutitjulu in the Central Australian Zone. There are currently no full time youth diversion programs in the Central Australian Expanded Zone under the Petrol Sniffing Strategy.

Any changes to this position would be a matter for future budget consideration.

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**Question No:** 047

**Topic:** Diversionary Programs

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

What allocation of funds will be made to resource diversion and support programs the extended 8 point plan in the Southern NT?

**Answer:**

FaHCSIA allocated \$449,939 from April to June 2007 and \$2,008,144 in 2007-08 to support Youth Diversion programs in the four communities of Finke, Docker River, Imanpa and Mutitjulu. This fully commits FaHCSIA's approved Petrol Sniffing Strategy program funds for these years.

Under the Northern Territory Emergency Response, \$7.6 million was committed to youth diversion activities in the Northern Territory in 2007-08 financial year, including \$1,856,000 on activities in Central Australia.

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**Question No:** 082

**Topic:** Indigenous Protected Area Program

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Given this Government has so far refused to identify future funding or any programme changes to the NHT, what plans does this Government have in relation to the future maintenance of Indigenous Protected Areas and the roll-out of new Indigenous Protected Areas?

**Answer:**

The Government has announced a \$50m commitment over five years for expansion of the successful Indigenous Protected Area program to be funded under the Government's \$2.25b "Caring for our Country" program which was announced on 14 March 2008.

The expanded Indigenous Protected Area program will support the management of the existing Indigenous Protected Areas and the development and declaration of new Indigenous Protected Areas.

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**Question No:** 086

**Topic:** Shared Responsibility Agreements (SRAs)

**Hansard Page:** written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Is there an evaluation framework in place for SRAs? What is this framework? Are these administered from Canberra or from regional offices?

**Answer:**

SRAs are monitored and evaluated as part of the broader ongoing assessment and evaluation of funding outcomes for the *Indigenous Communities Strategic Investment (ICSI)* fund. Each SRA has its own stated obligations, performance indicators and reporting requirements, which are monitored by both the national and regional offices, with primary carriage of the evaluations occurring at the local level by Indigenous Coordination Centres (ICCs).

Additionally, consultants were engaged by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs in 2006 to review a total of 80 SRAs that had been implemented in Indigenous communities across Australia. In 2007, the department commissioned a more comprehensive review of the implementation of SRAs. This review was undertaken by Morgan Disney and Associates Pty Ltd and the report is publicly available at: [http://www.facsia.gov.au/sra\\_report/pdf.htm](http://www.facsia.gov.au/sra_report/pdf.htm).



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**Question No:** 112

**Topic:** Petrol Sniffing Strategy

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Have you received any complaints about the Central Australian Petrol Sniffing Strategies Unit (CAPSSU) in Alice Springs?

**Answer:**

No.

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**Question No: 113**

**Topic:** Petrol Sniffing Strategy

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

I understand the current evaluation of the CAPSSU does not include Mutitjulu, why is this?  
Who decided who the evaluation team would consult and on what basis?

**Answer:**

The evaluation in question is the evaluation of the first year of the implementation of the Petrol Sniffing Strategy 2006 Budget Measure, not of CAPPSU.

It was judged that an adequate evaluation of the implementation of the Petrol Sniffing Strategy could be undertaken without imposing an additional burden on the community of Mutitjulu, given the high level of scrutiny already applying in 2006 and 2007. This decision was made by the FaHCSIA Evaluation Steering Committee.

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**Question No: 117**

**Topic:** Petrol Sniffing Strategy

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Can you report on how the next round of tenders for the delivery of services relating to petrol sniffing is to be conducted?

**Answer:**

In the lead up to the requirement for additional services, consideration will be given to the most appropriate process. This will be dependent on the nature of services being acquired and the prevailing market conditions.

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**Question No: 136**

**Topic:** NTER – Youth Diversionary Program

**Hansard Page:** CA45

**Senator Siewert asked:**

Of the areas and regions that are covered in the extended 8 point plan can you tell me which centres have and have not full-time youth/diversionary programs? Why not?

**Answer:**

Under the 8 Point Petrol Sniffing Strategy, full time youth diversionary programs are in place in the communities of Imanpa, Finke, Docker River and Mutitjulu. This reflects funding under the current Budget measure.

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**Question No: 042**

**Topic:** Petrol Sniffing Strategy

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked

What progress has there been on getting consistent legislation across all states and territories involved?

**Answer:**

The Australian Government is not currently undertaking any specific legislative initiatives in regard to the Petrol Sniffing Strategy. However, Australian Government agencies, led by the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department, have been working on the Cross Border Justice Scheme in cooperation with the WA, SA and NT Governments.

The Scheme's objective is to improve the delivery of law and justice services to the Ngaanyatjarra, Pitjantjatjara and Yankunytjatjara (NPY) lands region, particularly by removing any obstacles to the delivery of those services caused by State and Territory borders. The Scheme will enable the courts, police and certain other law and justice services to operate unimpeded across borders.

The Australian Attorney-General's Department has been working with WA, SA and the NT Governments to develop amendments to legislation to ensure that the Cross Border Justice Scheme can operate as intended. The Scheme is not specific to the issue of petrol sniffing.

The issue of consistent legislation specific to the Petrol Sniffing Strategy will be progressed under the revised Petrol Sniffing Strategy Project Implementation Plan.

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**Question No:** 088

**Topic:** Indigenous Housing

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

What progress has been made in delivering the Government's January 16 commitment to provide more housing in the Northern Territory?

- How many houses are going to be built?
- Where are the houses going to be built?
- How many existing house will be renovated?
- Who will determine where the housing should to be upgraded?
- What other infrastructure will be provided in these communities for the benefit of those living there?
- Who is to undertake this housing construction work?
- At what cost?
- What commitment is there to employ or train indigenous workers in this construction work?
- What ongoing housing maintenance service will be provided?
- Are discussions with defence housing Australia continuing for a supply of housing stock and ongoing maintenance and support services?
- Will the new housing be rented or sold to the occupants?
- What policies are in place if renter or homeowners fall behind in payments?

**Answer:**

126 houses are going to be built. The houses will be built in Indigenous communities across all regions of the NT. This includes town-based communities, major communities and minor communities.

Under the current Northern Territory Indigenous Housing Program (NTIHP) Construction Program the NT Housing Needs Measurement Model which identifies overall housing need in each community. Regional Technical Officers then consult with communities to determine relative priorities for new housing and housing upgrades.

The current NTIHP provides for housing (construction, upgrades, repairs and maintenance and management activities) as well as housing-related infrastructure (includes the planning and development of serviced remote community housing sub-divisions), and the provision of essential services (includes the provision of power, water and sewerage) in some Indigenous communities.

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The current NTIHP Construction Program is delivered through a wide range of contractors, including Indigenous Community Housing Organisations (ICHOs), private building companies and the NT Department of Planning and Infrastructure Construction Division. In 2007-08 the construction component of the NTIHP is \$43,856,000.

It is recognised that housing construction and maintenance employment provide key economic opportunities for remote communities. Under the NTIHP a number of construction projects are contracted as Employment and Training programs. It is the expectation of the Australian Government that the Northern Territory Government will take immediate action to expand and maximise Indigenous training and employment outcomes in the area of construction, maintenance and administration. The Northern Territory Government is required to demonstrate its commitment by setting specific and achievable training and employment targets for 2007-08 and all future housing agreements.

Ongoing housing maintenance services are provided by ICHOs. The 2007-08 NTIHP Housing Maintenance Program provides grant funding to ICHOs to assist them with carrying out identified repairs and maintenance of the community housing dwellings managed by that ICHO.

No, discussions with defence housing Australia are not continuing for a supply of housing stock and ongoing maintenance and support services.

New housing will be rented to community members.

Currently, each ICHO has its own policies and procedures in relation to rent collection and management of rental arrears. From 1 July 2008, Indigenous community housing in the NT will transition to a remote public housing management framework and rent policies and procedures will be set in line with urban public housing arrangements.

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**Question No:** 066

**Topic:** Municipal Services funding for Umoona

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

Can you please provide me with an update as to what is happening with Municipal Services funding for Umoona Aboriginal Community (near Coober Pedy, SA)?

**Answer:**

The Minister has approved a one-off funding package to Umoona Community Council for 2007-08 that will provide for rubbish collection and road maintenance services by the District Council of Coober Pedy and enable some non-municipal services activities, such as community governance, to be funded.



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**Question No: 067**

**Topic:** Municipal Services funding for Umoona

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

What amount of municipal services funding did FaHCSIA provide Umoona in 2006/07?  
Who has it been paid to?

**Answer:**

In 2006-07, FaHCSIA provided a total of \$343,000 in municipal services funding which was paid directly to the Umoona Community Council.

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**Question No:** 068

**Topic:** Municipal Services funding for Umoona

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

What amount of funding has FaHCSIA allocated for the delivery of comparable services and programs to Umoona for 2007/08?

**Answer:**

Funding of \$280,000 has been allocated to the Umoona Community Council for the provision of community governance activities. Funding of \$35,000 will be provided for rubbish collection and road maintenance services by the District Council of Coober Pedy.

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**Question No: 069**

**Topic:** Municipal Services funding for Umoona

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

To which organisations has this funding been allocated and for what purposes?

**Answer:**

Currently, the District Council of Coober Pedy is funded directly to provide rubbish collection and road maintenance services to Umoona community. Funding has been allocated to the Umoona Community Council for the provision of community governance activities.

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**Question No:** 070

**Topic:** Municipal Services funding for Umoona

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Who is responsible for the delivery of Umoona's municipal services?

**Answer:**

The District Council of Coober Pedy is providing municipal services to Umoona on a fee for service basis.

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**Question No: 071**

**Topic:** Municipal Services funding for Umoona

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

As of now, what proportion of this funding has been released?

**Answer:**

The Minister has approved a one-off funding package to Umoona Community Council for 2007-08. Funding will be released shortly.

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**Question No: 072**

**Topic:** Municipal Services funding for Umoona

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

Are you aware of the promise by the former Minister Mal Brough on 2 July 2007 that funding for Umoona would continue in 2007/08? Can you explain how seven months after this indication from the Minister that no funding has been released?

**Answer:**

The Minister has approved a one-off funding package to Umoona Community Council for 2007-08 that will provide for rubbish collection and road maintenance services by the District Council of Coober Pedy and enable some non-municipal services activities, such as community governance, to be funded.

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**2007-08 Additional Estimates, February 2008**

**Output Group:** 1.2

**Question No:** 073

**Topic:** Municipal Services funding for Umoona

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

Are you aware of a letter sent to FaHCSIA by UnitingCare Wesley in July 2007 requesting confirmation that funding would continue in 2007/08 and asking who would be paid and how much? Why has there been no response?

**Answer:**

No. An email was sent by UnitingCare Wesley in July 2007 to the FaHCSIA South Australia Office. It appears to have been overlooked.

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**Output Group:** 1.2

**Question No:** 074

**Topic:** Municipal Services funding for Umoona

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Are you aware of a similar letter sent to the new Minister Jenny Macklin by UnitingCare Wesley in early January? (...requesting confirmation that funding would continue in 2007/08 and asking who would be paid and how much) Why has there been no response?

**Answer:**

Yes. A formal response to this letter was sent on 28 May 2008.



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**Output Group:** 1.2

**Question No:** 075

**Topic:** Municipal Services funding for Umoona

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

How does the department intend to resolve this issue for the future? What is the plan for the next financial year?

**Answer:**

FaHCSIA will continue working with the South Australian Government, South Australia Local Government Association and relevant local government councils on the provision of services to those Indigenous communities located within local government boundary areas.

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**Output Group:** 1.2

**Question No:** 076

**Topic:** Municipal Services funding for Umoona

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

What agreements or arrangements have been made between the department and Coober Pedy District Council in relation to Umoona?

**Answer:**

Arrangements have been made with the District Council of Coober Pedy to provide rubbish collection and minor road maintenance to the Umoona community.

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**Output Group:** 1.2

**Question No:** 077

**Topic:** Municipal Services funding for Umoona

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

What agreements or arrangements have been made between the department and the Aboriginal Land Trust in relation to Umoona?

**Answer:**

There are currently no agreements or arrangements made between the department and the Aboriginal Land Trust in relation to Umoona. FaHCSIA has and will continue to work with the Trust, as appropriate.

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**Question No:** 078

**Topic:** Municipal Services funding for Umoona

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

How many of the other 31 other Aboriginal Community Councils have experienced or are experiencing similar issues?

**(Amended) Answer:**

One. We are consulting with that community regarding an appropriate response.

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**Output Group: 1.2**

**Question No: 079**

**Topic:** Municipal Services funding for Umoona

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

Can you please provide me a breakdown of how municipal services are being delivered to the 31 councils so mentioned?

**Answer:**

There are 23 community councils not 31 in South Australia which are funded for the delivery of municipal services to communities under three different funding arrangements. The number of communities under each municipal services funding and delivery arrangement is presented in the table below.

<b>MUNS Delivery Arrangements</b>	<b>Regional Service Provider</b>	<b>Local Government Council</b>	<b>Direct Funding</b>
<b>Number of community councils</b>	4	4	15

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**Output Group: 1.2**

**Question No: 083**

**Topic:** Indigenous Protected Area Program

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Will IPA rangers be employed from the establishment of any new IPA sites?

**Answer:**

Yes, new Indigenous Protected Areas will involve the employment of additional Rangers by the relevant Indigenous organisations. The Rangers will be employed to deliver environmental outcomes in accordance with the plans of management developed for the Indigenous Protected Areas.

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**Output Group: 1.2**

**Question No: 109**

**Topic:** Child Protection Workers

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

What increase has there been (if any) in the availability of programs and services for victims of violence and abuse and offenders since the intervention commenced? What additional resources has the Commonwealth provided for programs and services for victims of violence and abuse and offenders?

**Answer:**

Under the Family Violence Regional Activities Program since the intervention commenced there have been three new projects, five refunded projects and six extensions given to projects. In addition, there are seven projects funded under the Family Violence Partnership Program which provide safe houses, counselling, training and integrated services for victims of violence and abuse and offenders.

As part of the Northern Territory Emergency Response the Commonwealth has committed \$11.8 million to the Northern Territory Government to expand culturally appropriate and relevant child protection services, Aboriginal family and community workers and expand or establish new safe house services. This funding is to establish: 21 new or expanded safe houses in up to 16 remote communities, 10-12 new child protection workers and ten Aboriginal family and community workers. Additionally, the Government has recently committed \$1.7m which will establish more safe houses in two more communities.

There is now a full time police presence in an additional 18 remote communities in the NT as a result of the intervention. This has had a two fold effect. It has increased safety through direct police presence in these 18 communities. Secondly, it has reduced the areas that the pre existing 36 bush stations need to cover increasing their effectiveness for other communities.

The introduction of the alcohol bans has also impacted on community safety through reducing availability of alcohol within remote communities, a significant contributing factor in violence in communities.

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**Output Group: 1.2**

**Question No: 110**

**Topic:** Moving into town

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

I understand that there has been an unseasonably high rate of movement of people from remote communities into town and inter-state. Is this correct?

**Answer:**

The department is aware of the views that this is occurring in towns in the Northern Territory.

Seasonal influx of people from remote communities into towns is common, particularly over the wet season when access to many communities is limited.

Later this year, the Australian Government will undertake a review of the Northern Territory Emergency Response. The final makeup of the review will be decided by the independent experts who will manage the process. It is envisaged that the review will be highly consultative with face to face meetings with a variety of Indigenous people and communities in the Northern Territory and submissions called from interested groups.



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**Output Group:** 1.2

**Question No:** 111

**Topic:** Moving into town

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Community sector organisations are reporting difficulties in meeting increased demand for services – such as food vouchers, visitor and crisis accommodation. What tracking or monitoring do you have in place for this increased demand? What additional support or resources are available to these over-stretched organisations?

**Answer:**

The department does not undertake tracking or monitoring of demand for services provided by community sector organisations.

Support for these organisations is provided through the Northern Territory Government Department of Health and Community Services.

Later this year, the Australian Government will undertake a review of the Northern Territory Emergency Response. The final makeup of the review will be decided by the independent experts who will manage the process. It is envisaged that the review will be highly consultative with face to face meetings with a variety of Indigenous people and communities in the Northern Territory and submissions called from interested groups.

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**Output Group:** 1.2

**Question No:** 084

**Topic:** Shared Responsibility Agreements (SRAs)

**Hansard Page:** written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Are Shared Responsibility Agreements planned to continue in Indigenous communities?

**Answer:**

The Australian Government is committed to working with Indigenous communities, families and individuals through reciprocal partnerships that deliver benefits in a manner that builds on the creativity and self-reliance of Indigenous Australians, while minimising their reliance on Government and welfare. These agreements continue to be available as a mechanism for achieving this aim.

Future agreements will be aimed towards addressing Closing the Gap targets, and they will more closely link behavioural change with the benefits provided through the agreement.

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**Output Group: 1.2**

**Question No: 141**

**Topic:** CDEP Program monitoring

**Hansard Page:** CA55

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Through the office of evaluation and audit of the CDEP program, could you advise how often these programs are visited, the types of criteria they are assessed against and where breaches have been identified and the consequences of those breaches?

**Answer:**

CDEP providers are monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure program performance. A risk management based approach is adopted to determine the level and frequency of monitoring.

Where a CDEP provider fails to deliver CDEP activities in line with the contract they are notified of the specific issues and given time to remedy the program issues. CDEP Contract Managers also work closely with providers to ensure that issues are addressed. Should serious issues not be resolved an agreement may be terminated, not extended (if the agreement is for less than twelve months duration) or the organisation may not be recontracted.

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**Output Group:** 1.2

**Question No:** 123

**Topic:** Long Grass Influx

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Do they have data on the increased demand for emergency accommodation and for food parcels in Darwin, Alice and Katherine?

**Answer:**

The department is not aware of what data the NT Government may have. We are aware that access to short and long term accommodation continues to be a major issue for their clients across the Darwin and Palmerston areas, FaHCSIA has raised this issue directly with the NT Government.

Later this year, the Australian Government will undertake a review of the Northern Territory Emergency Response. It is envisaged that the review will be highly consultative with face to face meetings with a variety of Indigenous people and communities in the Northern Territory and submissions called from interested groups.

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**Australian Government**

**Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs**  
Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination

**T2**

«Title» «First\_Name» «Last\_Name»  
«Address\_Line\_1»  
«Company\_Name»  
«Address\_Line\_2»  
«CITY»

Re: Northern Territory Integrated Youth Services Project

««GreetingLine»»

The Australian Government through the Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaCSIA) is seeking to engage a suitable organisation, or consortium of organisations, to deliver a comprehensive regional youth service to four Indigenous communities in the Central Desert region of the Northern Territory. This comprehensive youth services initiative is referred to as the Northern Territory Integrated Youth Services Project (the Project).

The Project will focus on intensively engaging and building leadership, confidence, self reliance and life skills in young people. It will include strategies for engaging young people who are connected in some way to school, as well as strategies for engaging those young people who have completely disconnected from mainstream education.

Twenty six potentially suitable organisations are being invited to apply for funding to deliver the Project. «alt\_company\_name» has been selected as one of those organisations.

The Project funding Application Guidelines and an Application Form are attached. The Guidelines provide details of the Project, how to apply to receive funding and how Applications will be assessed. If, after reading the Guidelines, you are satisfied that «alt\_company\_name2» is capable of delivering the Project and would like to apply for funding, please arrange for the completed Application Form to be received by FaCSIA by 2pm Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT) on Thursday 14 December 2006. The delivery address for Applications is as follows:

The Tender Box

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FaCSIA 06/T551  
Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs  
Juliana House  
10 Bowes Street  
WODEN ACT 2606

For further information regarding the NT Integrated Youth Services Project please email your questions to: [ntyouthservicesproject@oipc.gov.au](mailto:ntyouthservicesproject@oipc.gov.au). Responses to questions received during the Application Period will be emailed to all Applicants as quickly as possible. Questions will not be taken after 5pm AEDT Thursday 7 December 2006.

Yours sincerely

[authorised for electronic transmission]

Kate Gumley  
Group Manager (a/g)  
Strategic Interventions Taskforce  
FaCSIA

10 November 2006

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
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FOR INFORMATION ONLY



**Australian Government**

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**Department of Families, Community Services  
and Indigenous Affairs**

## Long Form Funding Agreement

BETWEEN THE

Commonwealth of Australia as represented by and acting through the  
Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs  
ABN 36 342 015 855

AND

**[name of funding recipient]**

ABN [insert ABN]

for the **[name of Activity]** under the Commonwealth's **[name of relevant  
funding Programme]** Programme

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[Note: the full attachment was tabled in the Senate on 20.03.08 and has not been included in the electronic/printed volume]



## Australian Government

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### Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

#### NT Integrated Youth Services Project

#### Application Guidelines

The Guidelines contain:

-

- Section 1 – Overview
- Section 2 – Statement of Requirement
- Section 3 – Selection Criteria and Selection Process
- Section 4 – Terms and Conditions of Application
- Section 5 – Glossary

Commonwealth of Australia 2004

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## Important Information

### Closing Date and Lodging Applications

Applications close at 2 pm Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT) on Thursday 14 December 2006. Applications must be lodged at the Juliana House Tender Box:

The Tender Box  
FaCSIA 06/T551  
Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaCSIA)  
Juliana House  
10 Bowes Street  
WODEN ACT 2606

by 2 pm AEDT on Thursday 14 December 2006.

The Closing Date may be extended by written notice from FaCSIA. Any extension notice will be given the same distribution as the original Application Pack.

Applications may be delivered by hand or sent through the mail. The onus is on Applicants to ensure that any Applications that are sent through the mail are posted:

- **within sufficient time to reach the Tender Box by 2 pm AEDT on 14 December; and**
- **by an appropriate means to ensure the Applicants can track the progress of their Applications and confirm their delivery.**

FaCSIA is under no obligation to provide Applicants with confirmation of delivery of their Applications.

An original plus three copies of each Application should be submitted. The original should be marked "Original" and the copies marked "Copy". If no copy is marked "Original" FaCSIA may choose a copy and mark it as the "Original". The Application marked original should be unbound. If completing your Application by hand, please print and use a black pen.

Applications should be enclosed in a sealed envelope or other sealed container and marked as follows:

"NT Integrated Youth Services Project  
Reference Number: FaCSIA 06/T551  
Closing Time: 2 pm AEDT on 14 December 2006"

### Questions and Answers

For further information regarding the NT Integrated Youth Services Project please email: [ntyouthservicesproject@oipc.gov.au](mailto:ntyouthservicesproject@oipc.gov.au)

Answers to questions received during the Application Period will be emailed to all Applicants as quickly as possible. Questions will not be taken after 5pm AEDT on Thursday 7 December 2006.

## Section 1 – Overview of the Northern Territory Integrated Youth Services Project

### 1.1 What is the NT Integrated Youth Services Project?

Substance abuse is having a disproportionately negative effect on Indigenous communities, in terms of both incidence and impact. The Australian Government is determined to assist communities break the petrol sniffing cycle, regain control and build functioning communities. It is currently implementing an 8 point Petrol Sniffing Strategy that addresses trafficking, prevention, education, early intervention and treatment, as well as supply in a designated region of Central Australia. The Strategy is a holistic regional approach based on what works and is tailored to individual communities in the region.

**The key elements of the Strategy are:**

1. consistent legislation
2. appropriate levels of policing
3. further roll-out of non-sniffable petrol
4. alternative activities for young people
5. treatment and respite facilities
6. communication and education strategies
7. strengthening and supporting communities
8. evaluation.

The Strategy is being implemented in cooperation with affected communities, Indigenous organisations, fuel companies and the South Australian, Western Australian and Northern Territory Governments.

The Departments of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaCSIA); Education, Science and Training (DEST); Health and Ageing (DoHA); and the Attorney General's Department (AGD), were funded under the Reducing Substance Abuse (Petrol Sniffing) measure in the 2006-07 Budget to continue and expand the Strategy in the Central Desert region and two additional regions.

The NT Integrated Youth Services Project (the Project) will support elements 4 (alternative activities for young people), 6 (communication and education strategies) and 7 (strengthening and supporting communities) of the Strategy. The Project will comprise a coordinated approach to youth workers, comprehensive youth services and outreach education options. It will be implemented in four communities in the Central Desert region of the Northern Territory, as follows:

- Finke (Aputula);
- Imanpa;
- Mutitjulu; and
- Docker River (Kalkakutjara).

FaCSIA is managing this project on behalf of the Australian Government, in collaboration with other relevant agencies. Through FaCSIA, the Government is seeking to engage a suitable organisation, or a Consortium of organisations, with the appropriate knowledge, experience and skills, to deliver the required services. This organisation or Consortium will receive funding from a number of Government agencies, however all funding will be managed through a Single Funding agreement with FaCSIA.

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**1.2 What is the focus of the NT Integrated Youth Services Project?**

The primary focus of the NT Integrated Youth Services Project is to achieve better life outcomes for young people in Indigenous communities through intensively engaging them in positive diversionary activities. This will require the provision of a comprehensive, seven-days a week youth services program that is tailored to the specific needs of the communities.

**1.3 What are the planned objectives for the Project?**

The objectives of the Project are to:

- intensively engage young people in the Central Desert region and build their confidence, self reliance, leadership skills and life skills, so that they take responsibility for their own care and development and move away from welfare dependency;
- engage young people in a range of educational, social, cultural and recreational activities in order to counteract negative influences, including those related to substance abuse;
- engage young people in a partnership over time to help them to build on, and in some cases re-build, their learning pathways to literacy and numeracy and other forms of accredited training;
- engage communities in a partnership over time to help them to address the effects of substance abuse in young people in their communities and build community resilience;
- develop community mentors to become involved in the Project;
- employ youth workers in each of the targeted communities and a coordinator to work across the four communities as well as staff to deliver an outreach education option;
- provide appropriate support, ongoing professional development and training, and respite for youth workers in order to facilitate effective service delivery; and
- contribute to the whole of government effort to reduce the damaging effects of substance abuse.



## Section 2 – Statement of Requirement

### 2.1 Eligible Organisations

An Eligible Organisation for the purpose of the NT Integrated Youth Services Project funding is:

- an incorporated organisation;
- GST registered; and/or
- a Consortium, provided that a Lead Agency identified is: incorporated and GST registered.

### 2.2 Mandatory Requirement

Where Applicants form Consortia to submit their Applications they must appoint a Lead Agency of that Consortium to submit their Application on their behalf. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in the relevant Application being excluded at the outset of the evaluation process.

Applicants lodge their Applications substantially in the format set out in the Application Form. Subject to the correction of unintentional errors of form under section 4.4 of these guidelines, failure to comply with this requirement will result in the relevant Application being excluded at the outset of the evaluation process.

### 2.3 Required Services

#### 2.3.1 Overview

The Provider will be required to deliver a youth services program for young people who are between 5 and 25 years of age in the four Northern Territory Indigenous communities of Finke (Aputula), Imanpa, Mutitjulu and Docker River (Kalkakutjara). The services are to be delivered, and/or their delivery coordinated, by a male and a female youth worker who will be placed by the Provider in each of the four communities.

The Provider will be required to make available a pool of relief workers to enable the full time youth workers to have time away from the communities for respite, training, personal and other reasons. The Provider also will coordinate and provide management and support for the youth workers.

The range of services delivered to communities by the Provider could include, but will not be limited to:

- youth activities, including sport and recreation, and other diversionary activities;
- linking to more specialised case management services to provide support for at-risk individuals at the local level (including assistance to remain connected to family);
- assistance to remain connected to or engage with education, training and

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employment; and

- linking to community health and education initiatives.

The range of services must include an education component that draws on the Australian Government's Partnership Outreach Education Model ([POEM](#)). POEM is a proven approach to re-engaging disconnected young people in learning and in assisting them onto meaningful pathways in life.

The education component of the services may be delivered directly by the core Service Provider, or through a partnership between the core Provider and one or more other organisation/s with education-specific expertise.

The range of services must also include preventative drug education strategies.

The services must focus on intensively engaging young people to build leadership, confidence, self reliance and life skills, so that they take responsibility for their own care and development and move away from welfare dependency.

The Provider will be required to develop a Youth Activity Plan for each community that will outline details of the planned service. Youth Activity Plans will be developed in close consultation with the communities, and should include flexible, adaptable, challenging and interesting youth services and activities designed to suit the individual needs of young people (as well as their families and the community as a whole).

The Youth Activity Plans must have strategies for engaging young people who are connected in some way to school, as well as strategies for engaging those young people who have completely disconnected from mainstream education. This should include fostering positive engagement with school where possible, with a view to increased attendance and achievement.

The mix of youth services and education options could be sequenced over time, if appropriate, to achieve the best possible match between community circumstance and need and the type of support offered by the service. The successful applicant will be required to deliver the agreed comprehensive range of services to the four designated communities for a three year period commencing in early 2007.

The services are required to be delivered to each of the four communities on an intensive basis, seven days a week, each day of the year, over an agreed range of hours. The range of hours will include those times of greatest need for youth services, including evenings, weekends and school holiday periods. Services will also be provided during school hours for those who are not attending school; however school attendance should be encouraged and fostered.

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### 2.3.2 Service Delivery Activities

In delivering services, through their youth workers and outreach education coordinator, the Provider will be required to:

- coordinate activities for young people including those who are affected by, or are at risk of, substance abuse. These should:
  - intensively engage the young people in activities, which interest them. Activities will be oriented towards youth development, including through sport and recreation, art, culture, life skills, counselling, mentoring, adventure, community service activities, literacy and numeracy education, financial management training, and other education, training and employment;
  - allow for a gradual introduction of accredited learning in line with the participants' readiness and capacity, including through the delivery of flexible outreach education options;
  - allow services such as health and education to better reach those in need; and
  - be delivered in a flexible and culturally responsive way;
- actively source young people to participate in the program, keep them engaged until they reach a suitable exit point and introduce accredited learning as appropriate;
- provide equipment necessary for the delivery of these services, including sporting and recreational equipment\*;
- function as a referral point to/from other specialist services, including health, counseling and other services, in the region;
- involve community members in the design and delivery of the services, in particular through the development and implementation of the Youth Activity Plans;
- arrange relevant training for local people to build their capacity to participate effectively in design and delivery, and employ local people where possible, including in trainee positions; and
- work with strategic partners, such as sporting and community organisations and existing Australian Government services in the region, including Job Network;
- build sustainable partnerships in the local communities that:

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\* NOTE: the Australian Government will provide a recreational hall in each of the four communities and will fully fund the lease of ten vehicles (two vehicles per community plus two additional vehicles to support coordination). Applicants should be aware that the vehicles and recreation halls will be available for their usage (ie. in planning their proposed approach to service delivery) however these facilities do NOT need to be included in costings as part of this Application.

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- foster community support for young people, including promoting good behaviour such as school attendance and healthy lifestyles;
- provide young people with mentoring and other support as required; and
- ensure young people are linked to appropriate support services (e.g. counselling, health, substance abuse related support services, life skills and financial management) as needed on an individual basis;
- perform project management functions, including:
  - engaging and training personnel, including local Aboriginal people;
  - administration and financial management;
  - providing support/ongoing training and professional development/mentoring mechanisms for youth workers;
  - managing staff performance;
  - managing respite for youth workers in communities; and
  - developing and implementing complaints handling mechanisms; and
- deliver an education component that draws upon successful elements of POEM including the following:
  - strong local partnerships focussed on achieving the outcomes that include education and training providers and community agencies;
  - intensive engagement of young people over time to focus on their education, training and special needs;
  - youth workers and educators working together to focus on the holistic needs of individuals;
  - flexible guidelines and models of delivery, including engaging young people in the evenings and school holiday periods; and
  - engaging young people in activities that interest them and allow for a gradual introduction of accredited learning in line with the participants' readiness and capacity.

The Youth Activity Plans for each community will be developed by the Provider following the finalisation of the Funding Agreement. This must be done in close consultation with community

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members. The Youth Activity Plans will be in line with the above requirements, and in particular should:

- include activities and services for young people that address relevant community and Australian Government priorities;
- provide opportunities for participation by community members; and
- establish processes for monitoring performance against the Plans.

A quarantined pool of funds, referred to as Community Accounts, will be made available to help implement elements of the Youth Activity Plans. These funds will be managed by the Provider and will be a maximum of \$10,000 per community each year.

Examples of activities that could be funded from the Community Accounts include:

- bringing special guest speakers into communities;
- taking young community people on field trips and camps; and
- running sporting carnivals or music festivals.

Because the Provider will be delivering flexible services, tailored to the needs of each community, not every community will need the same type or amount of assistance from the Community Account. Providers will also be expected to use other resources where available.

The Community Accounts will not be used to pay for services or activities funded from other sources, overheads or costs associated with administering the Funding Agreement, or for activities or services that are inappropriate to be funded by the Australian Government (for example, illegal or unethical activities). Unused funds would not be retained by the Provider as profit.

### 2.3.3 Other Requirements

The youth workers and other personnel employed to deliver services within communities will be required to be appropriately skilled and qualified, and to comply with relevant 'fit and proper person' police checks.

The youth workers will be required to be provided with appropriate support and training, including through:

- access to professional development services and other relevant training; and
- respite arrangements and relief arrangements, including for rostered days off and/or weekends, attendance at training, annual leave, periods of sickness and other leave.

The Australian Government will provide Housing for use by the two youth workers in each community for the duration of the Funding Agreement. The houses will remain the property of the Australian Government, and the provider may be required to enter into a lease arrangement including payment of notional rent. Rent does not need to be included in your costings for this Application, however any other Property /Housing related costs (including utilities and incidentals) should be included.

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The Provider will be required to work with FaCSIA to ensure a seamless transition from existing youth services arrangements to the new Project. This may include linking in with existing service providers and utilising their expertise as appropriate.

FaCSIA may agree to the successful applicant delivering a number of the services under sub-contracting arrangements.

If the Provider is currently engaged by the Australian Government to provide services within the specified communities FaCSIA will work the Provider and with other Australian Government agencies to enable alignment of service delivery and performance reporting. Funding arrangements will also be adjusted as necessary. This may include existing funding being rolled into the NT Integrated Youth Services Project, if appropriate.

#### **2.4 Target Group**

Four Northern Territory Indigenous communities have been identified for the Project, as follows:

- Finke (Aputula);
- Imanpa;
- Mutitjulu; and
- Docker River (Kalkakutjara).

The primary target for the services is people between the ages of 5 -25 years who are at risk or suffering from substance abuse and those who are disengaged from their local community.

#### **2.5 Funding Agreement period**

FaCSIA aims to enter into an agreement with the Provider, to run the Project, by early February 2007. The Provider will be offered a Funding Agreement for up to three years.

A Draft Funding Agreement, containing standard terms and conditions, is included in this Application Pack.

#### **2.6 Funding Arrangements**

Funding for the provision of services will be allocated to the Provider or the Lead Agency of a Consortium, who will then take responsibility for ensuring that all four communities receive comprehensive, high-quality services. Funding will be performance based according to the delivery of outcomes and milestones, as established and agreed with the Provider, and will incorporate activities covered in the Youth Activity Plans.

#### **2.7 The Funding Agreement**

The Funding Agreement will be entered into between FaCSIA and the Provider for the duration of the funding period. In managing the Project, the Provider will be required to comply with all the requirements of the Funding Agreement.

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The Provider will be responsible for ensuring that:

- the terms and conditions of the Funding Agreement established with the Australian Government are met;
- service provision is effective, efficient, and appropriately targeted;
- highest standards of duty of care are applied; and
- services are operated in line with, and comply with the requirements as set out within all State and Territory and Commonwealth legislation and regulations. These include but are not limited to the:
  - Privacy Act 1988;
  - Racial Discrimination Act 1975;
  - Sex Discrimination Act 1984;
  - Disability Discrimination Act 1992;
  - Social Security Act 1991;
  - any applicable Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S) and Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) laws;
  - any applicable State or Territory law relating to discrimination; and
  - any State/Territory laws regarding young people who are under 18 years of age such as mandatory reporting requirements and police checks.

Any unwillingness or inability to accept the terms and conditions in the Draft Funding Agreement will be assessed as part of the legal risk assessment. Please see part 4 on page 11 of the Application Form.

Providers should also be aware of any case based law that may apply or affect their service delivery.

### 2.8 Statements of Compliance

In completing part 4 on Page 11 of the Application Form Applicants should use the responses defined below:

- **Complies.** Compliance means that the provision has been read, understood and accepted and that the Applicant will comply in full and on time with that condition or obligation.
- **Does Not Comply.** Non compliance means that the provision has been read, understood and not accepted and that the Applicant will not comply with that condition or obligation.
- **Partially Complies.** Partial compliance means that the provision has been read and understood but only partially accepted and that the Applicant will only comply partially with that condition or obligation.
- **Not Applicable.** This means that the provision does not apply to the Applicant.

Where an Applicant indicates that it is partially compliant with a provision the extent of the non compliance should be fully detailed. In addition, a full explanation of the reasons for all non

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compliance, partial compliance and non applicability should be provided. Applicants should provide a separate list of provision in respect of which there is any non compliance.

Where an Applicant indicates that the provision is not applicable to the Applicant, the Applicant should explain the reasons why it is not applicable. A statement that an issue “needs to be negotiated” or other statement that does not fully state the specific requirement or position of the Applicant will be treated by FaCSIA as meaning “Does Not Comply”.

If an Applicant does not include a statement of non compliance, partial compliance or non applicability relating to any matter, FaCSIA will assume that the Applicant “Complies” with that matter.

Applications should be clear and precise and should reference, where appropriate, the clause numbers in the Draft Funding Agreement to which each item relates.

Applicants should not seek to resile from clauses with which they have stated they comply.

FaCSIA is under no obligation to negotiate in relation to any provision of the Application Pack or the Draft Funding Agreement if an Applicant’s statement of compliance concerning the clause, annexure, schedule or attachment contains (or is assumed under this section 2.8 to contain) a response of “Complies”.

## **2.9 Performance Reporting**

The Funding Agreement will include objectives, milestones and performance indicators, to be negotiated and agreed between the Provider and FaCSIA.

Following finalisation of the Funding Agreement the Provider will be required to submit a business plan, which will include these agreed objectives and milestones and will cover the overall delivery of the NT Integrated Youth Services Project.

The Provider will be required to report quarterly on performance, against both the business plan and the four Youth Activity Plans. A key requirement of the first performance report will be confirmation of the establishment of two youth workers (one male and one female) in each of the four communities.



## Section 3 – Selection Criteria and Selection Process

Following the application Closing Date (2pm AEDT Thursday 14 December 2006) FaCSIA will conduct an assessment of all Applications received prior to this date.

To enable a comprehensive and accurate assessment of Applications against the Selection Criteria, Applicants should provide the information required in the format and to the extent specified in these Application Guidelines (this document) and the Application Form.

Assessment of applications will be final.

FaCSIA will assess Applicants for funding primarily on the basis of the information provided in the Application Form.

### 3.1 Principle

The overriding principle guiding the selection process will be Value in Social Service Delivery (see Glossary). FaCSIA has funding principles in place to guide Selection Processes. The Selection Process will be conducted in accordance with these principles.

### 3.2 Process

The process will be a restricted competitive selection process.

### 3.3 Selection Criteria

Applicants should address the following selection criteria:

1. **Demonstrate your understanding of the statement of requirements of the NT Integrated Youth Services Project and your ability to meet the requirements.**

As a minimum your response should:

- Describe your proposed strategies for the delivery of the services, including what services would be delivered and how you would deliver the services.
- Describe how you will involve community members and relevant local service providers in planning and designing a unique service delivery model for each community.
- Expected challenges/risks you expect to face and how you would address them.
- Describe the management and governance arrangements you will use to support the services and how you will ensure quality and continuous improvement.
- Outline how you will staff your delivery of the services. Indicate the kind and level of skills, experience and/or qualifications that you would require and how you will support the staff.

2. **Demonstrate your proven performance in delivering services to young people living in remote Indigenous communities**

As a minimum your response should:

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- Provide information on your experience in supporting young people, including young people with substance abuse issues, in remote Indigenous communities.
  - Describe the proven strategies you have used to deliver the services, including strategies to discourage welfare dependency and to encourage young people to take up education and/or employment options.
  - Provide a description of the proven outcomes that have been achieved for young people through your delivery of the services.
3. **Demonstrate your first hand understanding of the target communities and the issues affecting these communities.**

As a minimum your response should:

- Provide information that shows your knowledge of the communities and their cultures.
  - Provide information that shows your knowledge of the issues faced by the young people and their families living in these communities, and the problems associated with welfare dependency and substance abuse.
  - Describe how your organisation will keep up to date with the changing needs of the young people.
4. **Demonstrate your ability to work collaboratively with each of the target communities and with other relevant local service providers to help achieve sustainable outcomes for Indigenous young people.**

As a minimum your response should:

- Provide examples of existing relationships, networks and links your organisation has with Indigenous communities and other relevant service providers operating in Indigenous communities.
- Describe how you will use community consultation and collaboration to achieve sustainable outcomes for Indigenous young people.

5. **Demonstrate your organisation's capacity to design and deliver education services, or to partner with organisations that have this capacity.**

As a minimum your response should:

- Provide information on your experiences in delivering education services including in Indigenous and/or remote communities (NB. in the case of a Consortium the experiences of just one of the applicants need be described).
- Provide details of the POEM-like education project that you will implement, including any partnerships that you may enter into and how you will implement

this project (for example within each community or from a central location outside of the communities).

- Outline how you will work with schools and others to develop drug prevention education strategies.
- Provide information on how this component will link in with the core youth services that you will provide.

### 6. Demonstrate your costs

This should comprise an itemised Budget covering all costs to deliver the required services, over the time periods:

- i. 2006/07 (4 months from 1 March 2007 to 30 June 2007)
- ii. 2007/08
- iii. 2008/09 and
- iv. 2009/10 (8 months to 1 March 2010).

Your response should include but not be limited to:

- **Direct staff costs** including youth workers salaries and on costs.
- **Management support and administration** including management and administration staff salaries and on costs.
- **Training and development** including training, professional development, conferences and memberships.
- **Travel expenses** including any costs associated with staff travel. Please note that 10 fully equipped leased vehicles (Troopies) including fuel and maintenance will be made available by the Australian Government for use by the youth workers to deliver services. These do not need to be included in your costings. Please include all other travel costs related to the delivery of services.
- **Other service delivery expenses** including community education, information sessions, marketing/promotion, advertising, support activities and other program development costs, translation and interpreter services.
- **Property/Housing costs** – The Australian Government will provide Housing for use by the two youth workers in each community for the duration of the Funding Agreement. The houses will remain the property of the Australian Government, and the provider may be required to enter into a lease arrangement including payment of notional rent. Rental costs do not need to be included in your costings for this application, however any other Property /Housing related costs (including utilities and incidentals) should be included.
- **Brokerage funds** – brokerage funds can be used for the purchase of specific services to assist families in practical ways to overcome a particular crisis. Brokerage funds can include transport, counselling, mediation and respite accommodation. Note: do not include the Community account in your costs as this will be funded by the Australian Government.
- **Education component** – provide an indicative budget for your outreach education component.

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- **Other operational overheads** –including power, telephone, equipment, office equipment, depreciation, maintenance and repairs of office equipment and stores, insurance, depreciation and other operational expenses.
- **Other** – any other costs associated with the delivery of the required services.

**7. Financial viability**

As assessed under Stage 3 of the assessment process set out in section 3.4 below.

**8. Legal risk**

As assessed under Stage 3 of the assessment process set out in section 3.4 below.

**3.4 Stages in the Assessment Process**

**Stage 1 – Receipt and Registration of Applications, Initial Screening for Compliance**

FaCSIA will register Applications following the Closing Date. Applications lodged otherwise than in accordance with these Application Guidelines will be registered separately.

Applications will be screened to identify those which:

- have lodged a Consortium Application but have failed to appoint a Lead Agency to lodge their Application on their behalf;
- have not lodged their Applications substantially in the format set out in the Application Form
- contain unintentional errors of form; or
- are otherwise non compliant with these Application Guidelines.

FaCSIA may at any stage during the evaluation process reach the view that Applications or Applicants fall within the categories listed above.

Subject to section 2.2 (where, subject to the correction of unintentional errors of form, exclusion of the Application is mandatory) FaCSIA may at any time during the evaluation process reject any:

- Applications which are incomplete or clearly non competitive; and/or
- Applications or Applicants which breach or fail to comply with any provision of these Application Guidelines;

but FaCSIA may still consider those Applications and seek clarification of those Applications.

Following the receipt of applications, there will be an initial screening of applications to ensure:

- Applicants comply with the terms and conditions detailed in the Application Guidelines and Application Form; and
- complete information has been provided in the Application Form to enable a fully informed assessment to be made.

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### Stage 2 – Assessment against selection criteria

FaCSIA will consider the Applicants' responses to each Selection Criteria 1 to 6 against an 11-point (0-10) scale (see Table below). Any Applicant which does not score at least 4 against each Selection Criterion may be excluded from further consideration.

Applications will primarily be assessed on the information provided in the Application Form. FaCSIA may also use information about an Applicant that is provided by:

- referees nominated by the Applicant; and/or
- funding bodies that have a current or previous funding agreement/contract with the applicant.

FaCSIA may use information about an Applicant that is, or becomes known to, the Australian Government in the course of its business, as well as any publicly available information.

**Table 1: Eleven-point rating scale for selection criteria**

Rating	Score
<b>Excellent quality</b> —excellent claims against the criterion, exceeds expectations, supporting information confirms consistent superior performance	10
<b>Very good quality</b> —very good claims against the criterion, meets all expectations to a high standard with complete and comprehensive supporting information	8 to 9
<b>Good quality</b> —good claims against the criterion, meets all expectations with convincing supporting information	6 to 7
<b>Satisfactory quality</b> —adequate claims against the criterion, mostly meets expectations, but may be lacking detail and/or supporting information	4 to 5
<b>Marginal or poor quality</b> —poor claims against the criterion, does not meet expectations, has deficient supporting information	1 to 3
<b>Does not meet criterion at all</b>	0

FaCSIA may shortlist Applicants following Stage 2 for progression to Stage 3.

### Stage 3 – Financial Viability and Legal Risk Assessments

Applications will be subject to criteria 7 and 8 in the Selection Criteria.

**Note:** FaCSIA may exclude Applicants that are assessed as high-risk in terms of Financial Viability or there is significant non-compliance with the Draft Funding Agreement.

Information required from Applicants for the financial viability assessment will be gathered via the information requested in Part 3 of the Application Form, *Financial Viability*. If an Applicant is part of a larger organisation or has a parent company this information should also be provided for the larger

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organisation or parent company. Each member of a Consortium should also provide the information requested in Part 3 of the Application Form.

The legal risk assessment will involve an assessment of the risks associated with each Applicant's unwillingness or inability to accept the terms and conditions of the Draft Funding Agreement. Please see sections 2.7 and 2.8 above.

FaCSIA may shortlist Applicants following Stage 3 for progression to Stage 4.

**Stage 4 – Selection of Preferred Applicants**

Following assessment against the Selection Criteria, the Financial Viability and Legal Risk Assessment, as well as consideration of any other risks identified in the evaluation process, the Assessment Team will make a recommendation to the FaCSIA Delegate regarding a preferred Service Provider.

The Delegate's decision relating to the selection process methodology, Successful Applicant(s) and Selection Process outcomes will be final.

Any or none of the Applications for the NT Integrated Youth Services Project may be selected.

**Stage 5 – Entering into Funding Agreements**

The Selection Process will be finalised when the preferred Service Provider has entered into a Funding Agreement with FaCSIA. The Funding Agreement will contain the entire agreement between the parties. There is no binding agreement on any parties until the Funding Agreement is agreed to and signed by the FaCSIA Delegate and the Applicant's Authorised Representative.

Parts of the Application may form an attachment to the Funding Agreement.

**Stage 6 – Police Checks**

The youth workers and other personnel employed to deliver services will be required to comply with relevant 'fit and proper person' police checks. Police checks will be conducted in accordance with FaCSIA requirements (as specified in the Draft Funding Agreement) to ensure only "fit and proper" persons deliver services in the nominated communities. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in termination of the Funding Agreement.

## Section 4 – Terms and Conditions of Application

### 4.1 Application conditions – *this section*

All Applicants for Northern Territory Integrated Youth Services Project are required to complete the Application Form provided and submit by 2pm AEDT on Thursday 14 December 2006. Your Application is not an agreement or contract. Meeting the Selection Criteria does not guarantee funding. Applications will be assessed and ranked according to the extent to which they meet the Selection Criteria. All information requested on the application must be provided to enable your Application to be fully considered.

FaCSIA will not accept completed Applications by fax.

FaCSIA will not accept completed Applications delivered to any location other than the Juliana House tender box (see **Important Information** on page 3 of these guidelines).

FaCSIA will acknowledge receipt of applications by email.

Only one Application per organisation will be assessed. If more than one Application is submitted, only the latest Application will be considered.

FaCSIA will not accept or respond to any Applicant's requests for information or correspondence about the status or progress of their Application.

FaCSIA will only respond to requests for information that seek clarification of issues to allow them to better understand the requirements of the Application Form and Application Guidelines. The question and answer email address nominated in the Important Information on page 3 is the only point of contact for all matters pertaining to these Application Guidelines and the evaluation process.

FaCSIA may deliver any written notification to an Applicant by leaving it or causing it to be left at the address of that Applicant, or by sending it to the email address of that Applicant as specified in their Application or as otherwise subsequently nominated in writing by the Applicant to the email address nominated in the Important Information on page 3.

At the end of the Selection Process FaCSIA will write to all Applicants about the outcome of the NT Integrated Youth Services Project Selection Process.

### 4.2 Late Applications

FaCSIA may reject any Application lodged after the Closing Date. If an Application is late, FaCSIA may determine that there were exceptional circumstances beyond the Applicant's control that meant the deadline could not be met and that other Applicants will not be disadvantaged by the acceptance of the late Application. An Applicant may be required to supply documentary evidence to support any exceptional circumstances. FaCSIA has no obligation to accept a late Application.

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#### **4.3 Checks of Applicants**

As part of the Selection Process, FaCSIA **may** undertake further checks of Applicants. FaCSIA may also conduct checks for non-disclosure of any relevant information. FaCSIA may also require further information from Applicants regarding their financial viability.

An Application may be rejected by FaCSIA if the Applicant does not provide, at its cost, all reasonable assistance to FaCSIA in this regard.

In addition, any debts that the Applicant has accrued to FaCSIA or other Australian Government agencies may be taken into account when making a decision to offer funding.

FaCSIA may use information from:

- FaCSIA's databases;
- other Australian Government agencies, such as the Australian Taxation Office and Australian Securities and Investments Commission;
- State or Territory agencies;
- law enforcement agencies;
- credit reference agencies;
- courts or tribunals;
- referees; or
- any other appropriate organisation or person reasonably required as part of these checks.

Information obtained from checks on Applicants described in this section, may be taken into account during the assessment of Applications or in making the final decision to offer funding.

#### **4.4 Applicant's Responsibilities**

It is the responsibility of the Applicants to ensure that their Applications are complete and accurate. Incomplete Applications may be excluded at any time from the assessment process at FaCSIA's discretion, but FaCSIA may still consider such Applications and seek clarification in accordance with section 4.7 of these Application Guidelines.

If FaCSIA considers that there are unintentional errors of form in an Application, FaCSIA may request the Applicant to correct or clarify the error, but will not permit any material alteration or addition to the Application.

Make sure you keep a copy of your Application and any supporting papers, either electronically or in hard copy, for your own records.



### 4.5 Conflict of Interest

Where an Applicant identifies that a conflict of interest exists or might arise in the provision of the services, the Applicant must identify that actual or potential conflict of interest. A conflict of interest may exist, for example, if:

- the Applicant or any of its personnel have a relationship (whether professional, commercial or personal) with a party who is able to influence the Selection Process (such as FaCSIA's personnel); or
- the Applicant has a relationship with an organisation which would affect the performance of the contract or would bring disrepute to or embarrass FaCSIA.

If at any time prior to entering into a Funding Agreement with FaCSIA an actual or potential conflict of interest arises or may arise for any Applicant, that Applicant must immediately notify FaCSIA in writing.

If a conflict of interest is identified FaCSIA may:

- exclude the application from further consideration;
- enter into discussions to seek to resolve such conflict of interest; or
- take any other action it considers appropriate.

The attention of Applicants is drawn to Division 137 of the Criminal Code and Applicants are advised that giving false or misleading information is an offence.

Applicants must not make false or misleading statements in their Applications.

Applicants, Consortium members and their respective officers, employees, agents and advisers must not engage in any collusive bidding (other than bidding by consortia to the extent permitted by the Application Pack), anti-competitive conduct or any other similar unlawful conduct with any other Applicant or any other person in relation to the preparation or lodgement of their Application.

FaCSIA may also involve the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) to provide assistance to FaCSIA in relation to any competition issues concerning an Applicant or related to an Application.

Applicants and their officers, employees, agents or advisers must not have violated and must not violate any applicable laws or FaCSIA policies regarding the offering of inducements in connection with the preparation of their Application.

Applicants must not use the improper assistance of any FaCSIA employee or use information obtained unlawfully or in breach of an obligation of confidentiality to FaCSIA in preparing their Applications.

### 4.6 Liability Issues

FaCSIA is not liable to the Applicant in relation to the Selection Process, including without limitation, when FaCSIA:

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- varies or terminates all or any part of the Selection Process or any negotiations with the Applicant;
- decides not to acquire any or all of the services sought through the Selection Process;
- varies the Selection Process; or
- exercises or fails to exercise any of its other rights under, or in relation to the Application Guidelines.

#### **4.7 FaCSIA's Rights**

FaCSIA may:

- amend these Application Guidelines by whatever means it may determine in its absolute discretion and will provide reasonable notice of these amendments to all parties provided with the Application Pack;
- vary the Application Pack, including the timing and processes referred to in these Application Guidelines;
- seek amended Applications or call for new Applications;
- forward any clarification of the meaning of the content of the Application Pack to all parties provided with the Application Pack on a non attributable basis and without disclosing any confidential information of an Applicant;
- subject to section 4.2, accept or reject any Application received after the Closing Date;
- allow or not allow another Eligible Organisation to take over an Application in substitution for the original Applicant where an event occurs that has the effect of substantially altering the composition or control of the Applicant or the business of the Applicant;
- shortlist Applicants;
- obtain clarification or additional information from Applicants or anyone else (including a formal presentation in support of their Application) and use this information for the assessment of the Applications;
- provide additional information to Applicants;
- negotiate with one or more Applicants (including negotiating with all Applicants without shortlisting) or discontinue negotiations;

## NT Integrated Youth Services Project Application Guidelines

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- if FaCSIA considers that no Application offers Value in Social Services Delivery or otherwise that it is in the public interest to do so, terminate the Selection Process, and negotiate with one or more non applicants or enter into a contract or other binding relationship outside the Selection Process;
- add to, alter, delete or exclude the services to be delivered under the Draft Funding Agreement; and/or
- publish or disclose the names of Applicant(s) (whether successful or unsuccessful).

Without limiting its other rights under the Application Pack or at law, if FaCSIA concludes that the preferred Applicant has retracted, or attempts to retract, agreements under which material technical, commercial, financial, corporate, relationship management, legal or contractual issues were resolved during negotiations, FaCSIA may disqualify the preferred Applicant's Application and/or exercise another right given by the Application Pack.

FaCSIA is not bound to accept the lowest priced Application or all or any part of an Application.

FaCSIA will not be liable or in any way responsible for any losses, costs, expenses, claims or damage resulting from the exercise of any of FaCSIA's rights under the Application Pack whether or not FaCSIA has informed an Applicant of its exercise of the rights.

The establishment of a time or date in the Application Pack does not create an obligation on the part of FaCSIA to take any action or create any right in any Applicant that any action be taken on the date established.

FaCSIA reserves the right to mark any application 'non-compliant' if it has concerns about the genuineness of the information provided or where it feels the application has not been submitted in the spirit of the NT Integrated Youth Services Project.

### **4.8 Disclaimer**

FaCSIA and its officers, employees, agents and advisors:

- are not, and will not be, responsible or liable for the accuracy or completeness of any information in or provided in connection with these Application Guidelines and Application Forms;
- make no express or implied representation or warranty that any statement as to future matters will prove correct;
- disclaim any and all liability arising from any information provided to the Applicant, including, without limitation, errors in, or omissions contained in, that information;
- except so far as liability under any statute cannot be excluded, accept no responsibility arising in any way from errors or omissions contained in any information in these Application Guidelines and Application Forms; and

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- accept no liability for any loss or damage suffered by any person as a result of that person, or any other person, placing reliance on the contents of these Application Guidelines and Application Forms, or any other information provided by FaCSIA.

#### **4.9 Application Documents**

All Applications (including paper and electronic copies) will become the property of FaCSIA on submission.

Without prejudice to any other right of FaCSIA under the Application Pack or at law, FaCSIA may disclose or allow the disclosure of any information contained in or relating to any Application (at any time) for any of the following purposes:

- evaluating or clarifying the Application;
- evaluating any subsequent offer;
- negotiating a Funding Agreement;
- managing a Funding Agreement following its execution;
- referring any material suggesting collusion by Applicants to the ACCC and the use by the ACCC of that material to conduct any review it deems necessary ;or
- anything else related to the above purposes, including audit requirements, compliance with Government reporting requirements and responding to any challenge to the evaluation process or audit.

FaCSIA may disclose or allow at any time the disclosure of any information contained in or relating to any Application:

- to its advisers or employees solely in order to evaluate or otherwise assess the Application;
- to its internal management personnel for purposes related to the evaluation process;
- to FaCSIA's responsible Minister;
- in response to a request by a House or a Committee of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia;
- within FaCSIA's organisation, or with another agency, where this serves the legitimate interests of the Commonwealth;
- where the information is authorised or required by law to be disclosed; or
- where the information is in the public domain otherwise than by FaCSIA's disclosure.

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Notwithstanding this section 4.9, ownership of the intellectual property in each Application will remain unchanged.

Subject to this section 4.9, all documents provided by each Applicant will be held in confidence so far as circumstances permit.

### **4.10 Statements**

Applicants should not:

- furnish any information;
- make any statement; or
- issue any document or other written or printed material

concerning the acceptance of any Application, for publication in any media without the prior written approval of the FaCSIA.

FaCSIA may exclude an Application from further consideration if the Applicant contravenes this requirement.

### **4.11 No Contract or Undertaking**

Nothing in the Application Pack will be construed to create any binding contract (express or implied) between FaCSIA and any Applicant until a formal written Funding Agreement, if any, is entered into by the parties. Any conduct or statement whether prior to or subsequent to the issue of the Application Pack is not, and the Application Pack is not, and will not be deemed to be:

- an offer to contract; or
- a binding undertaking of any kind by FaCSIA (including, without limitation, an undertaking that could give rise to any promissory estoppel, quantum meruit or on any other contractual, quasi contractual or restitutionary grounds or any rights with a similar legal or equitable basis whatsoever).

### **4.12 No Departmental Liability**

Participation in any stage of this evaluation process, or in relation to any matter concerning the Application Pack will be at each Applicant's sole risk, cost and expense. FaCSIA will not be responsible in any circumstance for any costs or expenses incurred by any Applicant in preparing or lodging an Application or in taking part in the evaluation process or taking any action related to the evaluation process.

Neither FaCSIA nor its officers, employees or advisers will be liable to any Applicant or any other person on the basis of any promissory estoppel, quantum meruit or on any other contractual, quasi contractual or restitutionary grounds or any rights with a similar legal or equitable basis whatsoever or in negligence as a consequence of any matter or thing relating or incidental to an Applicant's participation in this evaluation process, including instances where:

- an Applicant is not engaged to undertake the provision of the services;
- FaCSIA decides not fund all or any of the services;

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- FaCSIA exercises or fails to exercise any of its other rights under or in relation to the Application Pack; or
- FaCSIA makes information available or provides information to any Applicant relating to its assets, procedures, plans, tenders, existing arrangements for provision of the services or any possible future arrangements.

#### **4.13 Applicable Law**

The law applying in the Australian Capital Territory applies to the Application Pack and to the evaluation process.

Each Applicant should ensure that it has complied with all relevant laws and with Australian Government policy in preparing and lodging its Application and taking part in the evaluation process.

#### **4.14 Debriefing of Applicants**

If requested, unsuccessful Applicants will be provided with the summary of assessment and can make an appointment for a verbal debriefing. Details for arranging the debriefing will be given to applicants in writing at the conclusion of the Selection Process.

Applicants will be debriefed against the selection criteria contained in these Application Guidelines. Applicants will not be provided with information concerning other Applications, except for publicly available information and except in so far as comparative statements can be made without breaching confidentiality.

#### **4.15 Complaints Mechanism**

Complaints will be dealt with under the FaCSIA Complaints Management Scheme. The Complaints Management Scheme ensures that any problems that you have with FaCSIA's services, decisions or policies, and those of FaCSIA funded service providers, are taken seriously and dealt with promptly.

For the NT Integrated Youth Services Project Selection Process the initial contact person is:

**Project Manager**  
Sanjeev Commar  
Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination  
PO Box 17  
WODEN ACT 2606

If you feel this has not been successful, and your issue or complaint has not been resolved satisfactorily then you will need to contact a FaCSIA Complaints Officer on 1300 653 227. They will work with you to satisfactorily resolve the complaint or suggest further action if appropriate.

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If you are dissatisfied at any time with our handling of your complaint, you can also contact the Commonwealth Ombudsman.

For more information please contact: [FaCSIA complaints management](#) (web address: [www.facsia.gov.au/internet/facsinternet.nsf/aboutfacs/complaints\\_management.htm](http://www.facsia.gov.au/internet/facsinternet.nsf/aboutfacs/complaints_management.htm) or telephone: 1300 653 227).

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## **Section 5 – Glossary**

### **Applicant**

Means an organisation or Consortium that submits an application.

### **Application**

Means the application for NT Integrated Youth Services Project funding submitted by an Applicant. The application must be filled out in accordance with the requirements in the Application Guidelines, on a prescribed Application Form and submitted by 2pm AEDT Thursday 14 December 2006.

### **Application Form**

Means the Application Form made available to Applicants to submit an application for funding under the NT Integrated Youth Services Project. The application must be submitted using the prescribed Application Form provided to all applicants.

### **Application Guidelines**

Mean these Application Guidelines accessed by organisations interested in submitting an application for funding under the NT Integrated Youth Services Project.

### **Application Pack**

Means the material made available by FaCSIA for Applicants to help ensure Applicants understand their requirements for submitting a completed Application Form by the closing date. The Application Pack consists of the Application Guidelines, Application Form and Draft Funding Agreement.

### **Application Period**

Means the period for Applicants to complete and submit their Application Forms. It commences from the time that Application Packs are made available and finishes on the Closing Date for submitting Applications. During this period FaCSIA will only respond to requests for information that seek clarification of issues or material that allow them to better understand the requirements of the Application Form and Application Guidelines (questions will not be taken after 5pm AEDT on Thursday 7 December 2006).

### **Closing Date**

The Closing Date for applications is 2.00pm AEDT 14 December 2006. Applications submitted after this time may not be admitted for assessment. Please see 4.2 Late Applications.

### **Collaborative Bids**

Refers to bids where two or more Eligible Organisations have expressly indicated their



## NT Integrated Youth Services Project Application Guidelines

intention to submit a joint application for funding for the NT Integrated Youth Services Project (Also see *Definition of Consortium*).

### Commercial-In-Confidence

Means information in the Application Form that the Applicant clearly identifies as confidential and is not information that is:

- a) In the public domain; or
- b) Already known to FaCSIA other than through an obligation of confidence.

### Community Account

A quarantined pool of funds that will be made available to help implement elements of the Youth Activity Plan in each community. These funds will be managed by the Provider and will be a maximum of \$10,000 per community each year.

### Consortium

Means a group of organisations lodging a joint application, whereby the lead organisation must be an incorporated organisation.

A partnership consisting of individuals will not be considered a Consortium. If your group of organisations has been incorporated, the incorporated body is not considered to be a Consortium for the purposes of this Selection Process, but is considered an organisation in its own right.

### Delegate

FaCSIA's Delegate will approve the Successful Applicant under for the NT Integrated Youth Services Project with reference to a report on the Selection Process outcomes provided by FaCSIA.

### Draft Funding Agreement

Means one of FaCSIA's standard Funding Agreements. The NT Integrated Youth Services Project will operate under a Long Form Draft Funding Agreement. A Draft Funding Agreement does not become binding until the document is agreed to and signed by FaCSIA's Delegate and the Applicant's Authorised Representative.

### Eligible Organisation

See section 2.1 of these Application Guidelines.

Note: It is FaCSIA's policy not to fund individuals. It is generally FaCSIA policy to **not** fund Unincorporated associations due to the fact that an Unincorporated association does not have a separate legal existence and cannot enter into a funding agreement in its own name. However, there are some Unincorporated bodies that may receive funding. These include Public Benevolent Institutions, Charitable Institutions and Other Incorporated Entities as defined by the Australian Taxation Office.

### Funding Agreement

FaCSIA's standard Funding Agreements are performance based, legally enforceable agreements between the Commonwealth and the funding recipients that set out the terms

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and conditions governing the funding. Funding agreements are used where FaCSIA is providing funding to another party to deliver services or undertake certain activities, on behalf of FaCSIA, to the community.

**Lead Agency**

The organisation that is authorised, in writing, by a group of organisations that have formed a Consortium to act on their behalf.

**NT Integrated Youth Services Project**

Means the project that will be implemented by the successful applicant, as per the Statement of Requirement contained within these guidelines.

**Selection Criteria**

Means the Selection Criteria for assessing applications as outlined in Part 2 of the Application Form.

**Selection Process**

Means the process for the selection of the NT Integrated Youth Services Project funding recipient outlined in the Application Guidelines and Application Form.

**Successful Applicant**

The Selection Process will assess to what extent each Applicant has met the Selection Criteria. A recommendation will be made to the Delegate and Applicants advised of their success or otherwise. The decision by FaCSIA regarding the Successful Applicant is final.

**Supporting Material**

Means additional material provided by the Applicant with their Application that clarifies the claims within their Application, but which does not alter the content of the Application in any material sense.

**Value in Social Services Delivery**

Value in Social Services Delivery is the optimum combination of quality and cost with minimal risk to the Australian Government. FaCSIA seeks best Value in Social Service Delivery. Best value does not mean monetary value alone or lowest cost. A funding proposal that represents best value for the NT Integrated Youth Services Project will:

- Meet the objectives of FaCSIA – such as strong and resilient communities
- Meet the aims of the NT Integrated Youth Services Project
- Meet community requirements
- Be delivered in an efficient and effective way

## **NT Integrated Youth Services Project Application Guidelines**

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### **Youth Activity Plans**

Plans that the Provider will be required to develop for each community (following the finalisation of the Funding Agreement) outlining details of the planned service/s. Youth Activity Plans will be developed in close consultation with the communities, and should include flexible, adaptable, challenging and interesting youth services and activities designed to suit the individual needs of young people (as well as their families and the community as a whole).

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**Australian Government**

**Department of Families, Community Services  
and Indigenous Affairs**

Petrol Sniffing Strategy

Application Form –

**Northern Territory  
Integrated Youth  
Services Project**

Please indicate whether this  
is the original of this form or Copy 1,  
Copy 2 or Copy 3.

<b>ORIGINAL</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>COPY 1</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>COPY 2</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>COPY 3</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Reference Number: FaCSIA 06/T551**

**Closing date for Applications is:**

**2pm Australian Eastern Daylight Time Thursday 14 December 2006**

**Please return your completed Application to:**

The Tender Box  
FaCSIA 06/T551  
Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaCSIA)  
Juliana House  
10 Bowes Street  
WODEN ACT 2606



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**Important information**

Before completing this form, please ensure you have read the **Application Guidelines** and that you are familiar with the purpose of the Northern Territory (NT) Integrated Youth Services Project. Funding is limited and it is anticipated that only one service provider or one Consortium will receive funding to run this project across four communities in the Northern Territory. Applications will be assessed on the basis of the Selection Criteria set out in the Application Guidelines.

**Selection Criteria.**

The NT Integrated Youth Services Project is a discretionary initiative. Therefore the funding of the project is at the discretion of the Australian Government. Meeting the Selection Criteria does not guarantee funding.

All expressions used in this Application Form will, unless the context requires otherwise, have the same meanings as those set out in the Application Guidelines.

**Privacy**

You have been asked to provide personal information about contact persons and referees. This information may be used for:

- contacting the organisation about your Application; and/or
- contacting your referees about your Application; and/or
- the purposes of conducting surveys and review of the NT Integrated Youth Services Project by the Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaCSIA) or organisations on behalf of FaCSIA.

The individuals whose information is provided should be aware of the provision of their information to FaCSIA.

Additionally, FaCSIA may give that personal information to someone else in the circumstances listed in section 4.9 of the Application Guidelines.

The name(s) of the successful Applicant(s) may be published on the FaCSIA website.

All enquires about the Application Form and Guidelines should be directed to the NT Integrated Youth Services Project Email Address at: [ntyouthservicesproject@oipc.gov.au](mailto:ntyouthservicesproject@oipc.gov.au)

**How to complete the Application Form**

- Please keep your answers short and concise. To facilitate the assessment process, list and respond to guidelines in the order presented in the Application Form.
- Please submit your Application in hard copy, ensuring that an **original and 3 copies** (including all supporting documentation) are provided. The Application marked original should be unbound. If completing your Application by hand, please print and use a black pen.
- Remember to include the contact details for 3 referees that are available for comment prior to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December 2006 and following 1<sup>st</sup> January 2007.

**The Application Form is divided into 6 parts:**

**Part 1** — Applicant details

**Part 2** — Organisational Overview and Addressing Selection Criteria 1 to 6

**Part 3** — Information on Financial Viability

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**Part 4** — Statement of compliance with Draft Funding Agreement

**Part 5** — Statutory Declaration

**Part 6** — Checklist

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**Part 1 Applicant details**

NOTE: If the Applicant is a Consortium all members of the Consortium must individually complete Part 1

<b>1 What is the legal name of the organisation?</b>	
--	--

<b>2 What is the short name or trading name of the organisation (if applicable)?</b>	
--	--

<b>3 Date of incorporation</b>	
--------------------------------	--

<b>4 What is the Australian Business Number of the organisation?</b>	
--	--

<b>5 Type of organisation</b>	Non-profit organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Community group <input type="checkbox"/> Health institution <input type="checkbox"/> Educational institution <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/> ▶	
-------------------------------	--	--

<b>6 Is the organisation GST registered?</b>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
--	---

<b>7 What is the postal address of the organisation?</b>	PO Box	
	Number and street name	
	Suburb/Town/Locality	
	City	
	State/Territory	
	Postcode	

<b>8 What is the physical address of the organisation?</b>	Number and street name	
	Suburb/Town/Locality	
	City	
	State/Territory	
	Postcode	



**9 Nominated contact person for the Application**

This is the person who will be contacted if funding is approved or further information is required.

Title (e.g. Mr, Mrs, Ms, Dr)

First name

Family name

Position in organisation

Phone number (include area code)

Mobile phone number

Fax number

Email address

**10 Alternate contact person for the Application (if applicable)**

Title (e.g. Mr, Mrs, Ms, Dr)

First name

Family name

Position in organisation

Phone number (include area code)

Mobile phone number

Fax number

Email address

**11 Is the Application being made by a Consortium?**

No

▶ Provide Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 and contact details for 3 Referees

Yes

▶ What is the name of the Consortium?

**NOTE:** In the case of a Consortium, the Lead Applicant should submit an Application on behalf of the entire Consortium.

Non-lead applicants are required to provide the following ONLY:

- A completed response to **Part 1** and **Part 3** of this form
- Written authorisation for the Lead Agency to act on their behalf (as per **Part 5**)

Are you the lead member of the Consortium?

N  ▶ Provide Parts 1 and 3 ONLY.  
o


Y  ▶ Provide Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 and contact  
e details for 3 Referees.  
s

**NOTE:** If a new Consortium is unable to provide Referees regarding its activities as a Consortium, Referees should be provided for the Lead Agency.

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## **Part 2 Organisational Overview and Addressing Selection Criteria 1 to 6**

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 Please attach:

- a brief overview of your organisation, including its overall objectives as well as previous achievements relevant to this application. In the case of a Consortium provide relevant information regarding all member organisations, but focus primarily on the Lead Agency (no more than 2 pages).
- a statement of claims against the Selection Criteria below (no more than 15 pages);

Applications will be assessed against specific Selection Criteria listed in section 3.3 of the Application Guidelines. Under each of Selection Criteria 1 to 6 there are a series of guidelines that Applicants should use as a guide for framing a response. Applicants do not have to limit the information provided against each criterion to the guidelines listed, but should make all relevant claims against each criterion under the response to that criterion.

**NOTE:** Your statement of claims against Selection Criteria 1 to 6 and organisational overview should not exceed 17 (in total) A4 pages of typewritten text in 12 point Arial font.

### **Organisational overview**

This should include your organisation's overall goals and objectives, as well as previous achievements relevant to this application. In the case of a consortium you should provide information regarding all member organisations as appropriate, however you should focus primarily on the Lead Agency (no more than 2 pages).

This information may be used to inform the assessment process, as appropriate.

### **Selection Criteria**

(no more than 15 pages)

Applicants should address the following selection criteria:

**1. Demonstrate your understanding of the statement of requirements of the NT Integrated Youth Services Project and your ability to meet the requirements.**

As a minimum your response should:

- Describe your proposed strategies for the delivery of the services, including what services would be delivered and how you would deliver the services.
- Describe how you will involve community members and relevant local service providers in planning and designing a unique service delivery model for each community.
- Expected challenges/risks you expect to face and how you would address them.
- Describe the management and governance arrangements you will use to support the services and how you will ensure quality and continuous improvement.
- Outline how you will staff your delivery of the services. Indicate the kind and level of skills, experience and/or qualifications that you would require and how you will support the staff.

**6. Demonstrate your proven performance in delivering services to young people living in remote Indigenous communities**

As a minimum your response should:

- 
- Provide information on your experience in supporting young people, including young people with substance abuse issues, in remote Indigenous communities.
  - Describe the proven strategies you have used to deliver the services, including strategies to discourage welfare dependency and to encourage young people to take up education and/or employment options.
  - Provide a description of the proven outcomes that have been achieved for young people through your delivery of the services.

**7. Demonstrate your first hand understanding of the target communities and the issues affecting these communities.**

As a minimum your response should:

- Provide information that shows your knowledge of the communities and their cultures.
- Provide information that shows your knowledge of the issues faced by the young people and their families living in these communities, and the problems associated with welfare dependency and substance abuse.
- Describe how your organisation will keep up to date with the changing needs of the young people.

**8. Demonstrate your ability to work collaboratively with each of the target communities and with other relevant local service providers to help achieve sustainable outcomes for Indigenous young people.**

As a minimum your response should:

- Provide examples of existing relationships, networks and links your organisation has with Indigenous communities and other relevant service providers operating in Indigenous communities.
- Describe how you will use community consultation and collaboration to achieve sustainable outcomes for Indigenous young people.

**9. Demonstrate your organisation's capacity to design and deliver education services, or to partner with organisations that have this capacity.**

As a minimum your response should:

- Provide information on your experiences in delivering education services including in Indigenous and/or remote communities (NB. in the case of a Consortium the experiences of just one of the applicants need be described).
- Provide details of the POEM-like education project that you will implement, including any partnerships that you may enter into and how you will implement this project (for example within each community or from a central location outside of the communities).
- Outline how you will work with schools and others to develop drug prevention education strategies.
- Provide information on how this component will link in with the core youth services that you will provide.

**6. Demonstrate your costs**

This should comprise an itemised Budget covering all costs to deliver the required services, over the time periods:

- i. 2006/07 (4 months from 1 March 2007 to 30 June 2007)

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- ii. 2007/08
- iii. 2008/09 and
- iv. 2009/10 (8 months to 1 March 2010).

Your response should include but not be limited to:

- **Direct staff costs** including youth workers salaries and on costs.
- **Management support and administration** including management and administration staff salaries and on costs.
- **Training and development** including training, professional development, conferences and memberships.
- **Travel expenses** including any costs associated with staff travel. Please note that 10 fully equipped leased vehicles (Troopies) including fuel and maintenance will be made available by the Australian Government for use by the youth workers to deliver services. These do not need to be included in your costings. Please include all other travel costs related to the delivery of services.
- **Other service delivery expenses** including community education, information sessions, marketing/promotion, advertising, support activities and other program development costs, translation and interpreter services.
- **Property/Housing costs** – The Australian Government will provide Housing for use by the two youth workers in each community for the duration of the Funding Agreement. The houses will remain the property of the Australian Government, and the provider may be required to enter into a lease arrangement including payment of notional rent. Rent does not need to be included in your costings for this Application, however any other Property /Housing related costs (including utilities and incidentals) should be included.
- **Brokerage funds** – brokerage funds can be used for the purchase of specific services to assist families in practical ways to overcome a particular crisis. Brokerage funds can include transport, counselling, mediation and respite accommodation. Note: do not include the Community account in your costs as this will be funded by the Australian Government.
- **Education component** – provide an indicative budget for your outreach education component.
- **Other operational overheads** –including power, telephone, equipment, office equipment, depreciation, maintenance and repairs of office equipment and stores, insurance, depreciation and other operational expenses.
- **Other** – any other costs associated with the delivery of the required services.

**9. Financial viability**

As assessed under Stage 3 of the assessment process set out in section 3.4 below.

**10. Legal risk**

As assessed under Stage 3 of the assessment process set out in section 3.4 below.

**Note:** do not include the Community Account in your costs as this will be funded by the Australian Government.

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### Part 3: Financial Viability – Criterion 7

Applicants should provide sufficient information to satisfy FaCSIA that the Applicant, and any Consortium members, have the necessary financial capacity to provide the Service.

**If the Applicant is a Consortium, the following information in Part 3 should be provided for each member of the Consortium.**

FaCSIA reserves the right to request further information as required.



Please attach:

- audited financial statements for the past 2 financial years (i.e. 2004-2005 and 2005-2006);
- a financial statement (profit and loss, cash balance sheet and cash flow) as at the end of September 2006;
- details of the organisation's 10 largest creditors, the amounts owing and the date that they were due; and
- a budget for 2006-2007 (profit and loss and cash flow).

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#### 1 Who is responsible for Financial Management in the organisation?

Please include details of any relevant qualifications that these people have.

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- 2 Please describe the accounting function in the organisation including procedures for budgeting, monitoring of actual results against performance and review by senior management or Board of Directors.**

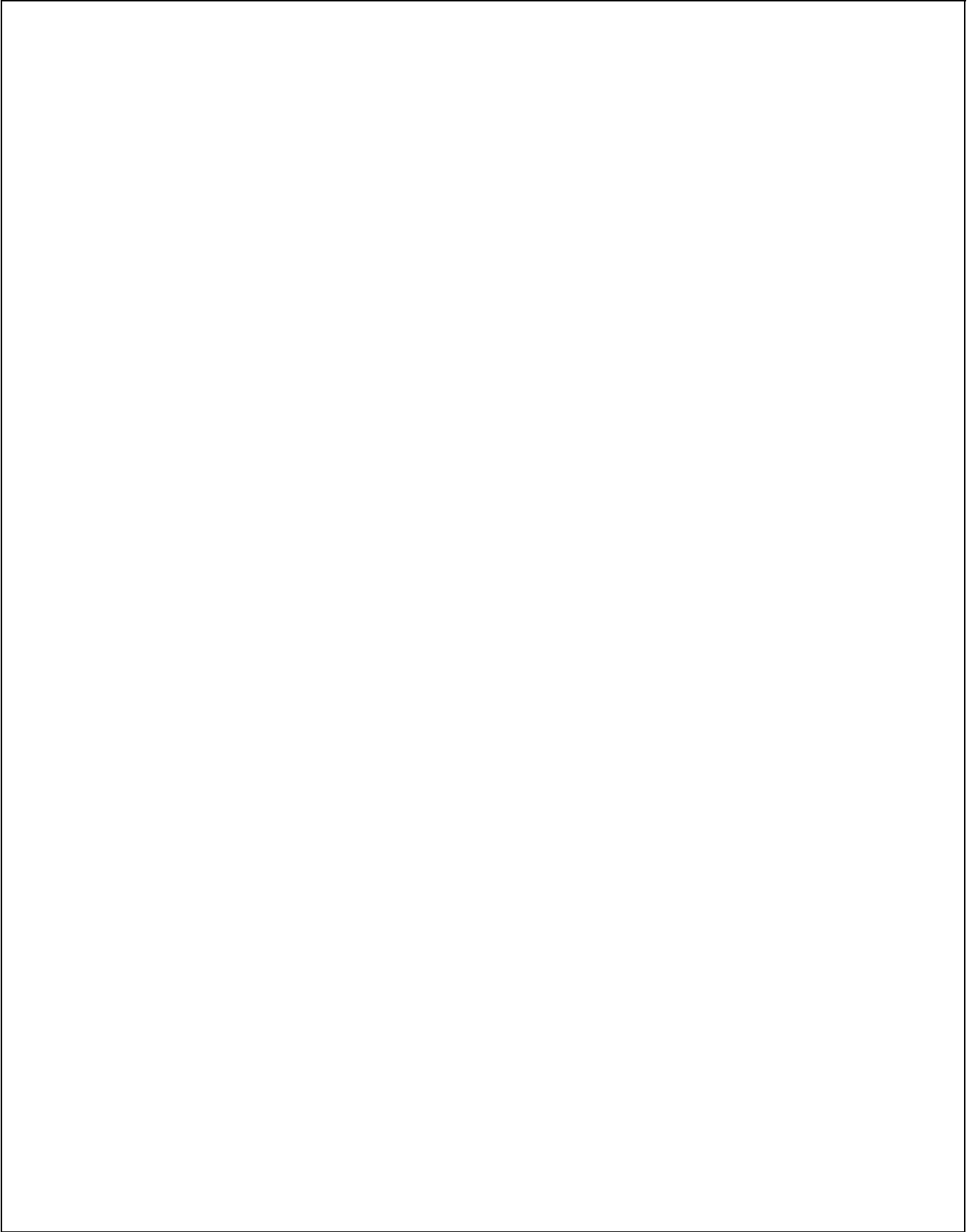


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**3 Provide details if any of the following apply to the organisation:**

- significant litigation against the organisation (either current, pending or during the last 3 years)  
[NOTE: If you settle a claim on confidential terms, please indicate this in your response];
- liquidation proceedings against the organisation (either current, pending or during the last 3 years) or any other formal charges (e.g. a notice to pay an outstanding debt by a collection agency on behalf of a creditor);
- outstanding tax liabilities; and/or
- future commitments or contingent liabilities which might affect the organisation.





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**Part 4 Statement of compliance with Draft Funding Agreement – Criterion 8**

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I, 

(Full name of person making the statement)
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(Position)
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confirm that 

(Name of Applicant)
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is willing to contract on the basis of the *Draft Funding Agreement*, except in the following instances (delete if not applicable):

Clause number	Extent of any proposed limitations on compliance and Reasons for <i>Does Not Comply/Partially Complies/Not Applicable</i> *	Proposed alternative language*

\* Please attach additional pages if required.

Signature of person making the statement 

--

Date 

--

## Part 5 Statutory Declaration

# Application for Developing Programs Category Australian Government Statutory Declaration

I,

Of

do solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:

AUTHORITY

that I am currently a

Of

and am authorised to make this declaration on its behalf.

### STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

1. I confirm that I am a person authorised to make this statutory declaration on behalf of the Applicant.

#### I confirm that the Applicant:

2. Applies to deliver the services described in the Statement of Requirements in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the Draft Funding Agreement, subject only to the matters identified in its Statement of Compliance.
3. Will regard all communications with FaCSIA as confidential and not disclose their contents without FaCSIA's prior written consent.
4. Acknowledges and accepts that the Australian Government does not in any way guarantee the levels of funding which may be associated with funding agreements entered into by us, and that contracts which may be entered into by FaCSIA may differ from the draft form contained in the NT Integrated Youth Services Project Application Guidelines.
5. Understands that the Application Guidelines are not an offer on the part of the Australian Government nor does it create any obligation on the part of the Australian Government to enter into a commercial or other relationship with any Applicant.
6. Understands that FaCSIA will have the right (but not be obliged) to act in reliance upon the contents of my response to the Guidelines, including its attachments, any statutory declarations and associated material.
7. Acknowledges and accepts that the Referees have been made aware of the relevant privacy laws and have consented to the use of their personal information for the NT Integrated Youth Services Project selection process.
8. Acknowledges and accepts that the information provided in its Application may be disclosed by FaCSIA under section 4.9 of the Application Guidelines.

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**Consortia [disregard if not applying as a Consortium]**

9. If the Applicant is applying as the Lead Agency of a Consortium I acknowledge [in addition to the preceding paragraphs 1 – 8 above] that in respect of its dealing with the Australian Government the following will apply:
- (a) The Applicant is authorised to negotiate and act for it, and has authority to bind it and all other Consortium members jointly and severally to any offer made to the Australian Government and any subsequent acceptance by the Australian Government (written authorisation by each Consortium member is annexed to this Declaration);
  - (b) It is our intention, upon which the Australian Government is entitled to rely, not to change the composition of the membership of the Consortium or the authority of the Lead Agency;
  - (c) Any change to the composition of the Consortium will be promptly notified to FaCSIA in writing and will entitle FaCSIA to reject the Application or review the basis upon which it may continue to deal with the new Consortium; and
  - (d) FaCSIA may require members of the new Consortium to enter into a deed for the benefit of the Australian Government of similar effect to this statutory declaration, or otherwise satisfy FaCSIA in respect of any matter associated with the new Consortium.

**Authorisation**

10. FaCSIA is authorised to undertake the necessary steps to assess, (a) the financial viability of the organisation or member of the Consortium, and (b) the ability of the organisation or members of the Consortium to deliver the required NT Integrated Youth Services Project, by checking information contained within this Application with, or obtaining additional information from:
- (a) FaCSIA databases;
  - (b) Other Australian Government agencies such as the Australian Taxation Office, Australian Securities and Investments Commission;
  - (c) State or Territory agencies;
  - (d) Law enforcement agencies;
  - (e) Credit reference agencies;
  - (f) Courts or Tribunals;
  - (g) Referees; or
  - (h) Any other appropriate organisation or person reasonably required as part of these checks.

**No illegal activities**

11. I confirm that:
- (a) The Application to which this statutory declaration is appended has not been prepared with the benefit of:
    - (i) Information obtained from a current or former officer or employee of the Australian Government in circumstances that constitute a breach of confidentiality or fidelity on the part of that person or a breach of Section 70 of the *Crimes Act 1914* (Cwlth), or regulation 2.1 of the *Public Service Regulations 1999*; or
    - (ii) Information otherwise improperly obtained from FaCSIA or any other department or agency of the Australian Government.
  - (b) The Applicant, through its officers, employees or agents, has not attempted and will not attempt, to influence improperly any officer or employee of the Australian Government in connection with the evaluation of the Applications;
  - (c) The Applicant or any party proposed by the Applicant to deliver any of the services has not been named under the *Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Act 1999* (Cwlth);
  - (d) The Applicant understands and agrees to all conditions including without limitation the obligations and acknowledgments included in the NT Integrated Youth Services Project Application Guidelines.

**Consents**

12. The Applicant:
- (a) Consents to and authorises the Australian Government, its officers, employees, agents or advisors to:
    - (i) Undertake confidential references, probity and credit checks regarding this Application; and
    - (ii) Seek any financial or other relevant information required for the purpose of establishing the viability of the Applicant;

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I make this solemn declaration by virtue of the *Statutory Declaration Act 1959* and subject to the penalties provided by that Act for the making of a false statement in statutory declarations, conscientiously believing the statements contained in this declaration to be true in every particular.

	(Signature of person making the declaration)	
Declared at		
On	(Day/month)	(Year)
	(Signature of person before whom the declaration is made)	
	(Printed name of person before whom the declaration is made)	
	(Qualifications of person before whom the declaration is made)	
	(Address of person before whom the declaration is made)	

**NOTE:** A person who **wilfully** makes a false statement in a Statutory Declaration under the *Statutory Declaration Act 1959* is guilty of an offence against that Act, the punishment for which is imprisonment for a term of up to four years.

**Please read the notes on the next page.**

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**PERSONS BEFORE WHOM A STATUTORY DECLARATION CAN BE MADE**

The Statutory Declarations Regulations provide that the following are persons before whom a statutory declaration can be made.

**Members of the following professions**

- Chiropractor.
- Dentist.
- Medical practitioner.
- Legal practitioner.
- Nurse.
- Patent Attorney.
- Pharmacist.
- Veterinary surgeon.

**Other persons**

- Agent of the Australian Postal Corporation who is in charge of an office supplying postal services to the public.
- Australian Consular Officer, or Australian Diplomatic Officer, (within the meaning of the *Consular Fees Act 1985*).
- Bailiff.
- Bank officer with five or more continuous years of service.
- Building society officer with five or more years of continuous service.
- Chief executive officer of a Commonwealth court.
- Civil marriage celebrant.
- Clerk of a court.
- Commissioner for Affidavits.
- Commissioner for Declarations.
- Credit union officer with five or more years of continuous service.
- Holder of a statutory office not specified in another item in this list.
- Judge of a court.
- Justice of the Peace.
- Magistrate.
- Master of a court.
- Member of the Australian Defence Force who is:
  - (a) an officer; or
  - (b) a non-commissioned officer within the meaning of the *Defence Force Discipline Act 1982* with five or more years of continuous service;
  - (c) or a warrant officer within the meaning of that Act.
- Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia, the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants or the National Institute of Accountants.

- Member of the Institute of Corporate Managers, Secretaries and Administrators.
- Member of the Institution of Engineers, Australia, other than at the grade of student.
- Member of:
  - (a) the Parliament of the Commonwealth; or
  - (b) the parliament of a State; or
  - (c) a Territory legislature; or
  - (d) a local government authority of a State or Territory.
- Minister of religion registered under Division 1 of Part IV of the *Marriage Act 1961*.
- Notary public.
- Permanent employee of:
  - (a) the Commonwealth or of a Commonwealth authority; or
  - (b) a State or Territory or of a State or Territory authority; or
  - (c) a local government authority;with five or more years of continuous service who is not specified in another item in this list.
- Permanent employee of the Australian Postal Corporation with five or more years of continuous service who is employed in an office supplying postal services to the public.
- Person before whom a statutory declaration may be made under the law of the State or Territory in which the declaration is made.
- Police officer.
- Registrar, or Deputy Registrar, of a court.
- Senior Executive Officer of the Commonwealth, or of a State or Territory, or of a Commonwealth, State or Territory authority.
- Sheriff.
- Sheriff's officer.
- Teacher employed on a full-time basis at a school or tertiary education institute.



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**NOTE: Depending on your answer at Question 11, you may not need to complete all parts of this Application Form.**

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Please provide an estimate of the time taken to complete this Application Form.

- The time actually spent reading the instructions, working on the questions and obtaining the information
- The time spent by all employees in collecting and providing this information

Hours

Minutes

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**Output Group: 2.1**

**Question No: 146**

**Topic:** Reciprocal Public Transport Concessions for Seniors

**Hansard Page:** CA78

**Senator Patterson** asked:

Of the \$22 million provided for transport concessions, what would it be indexed to in real terms now?

**Answer:**

The following table shows the approximate annual value of the previous Government's funding offer for this measure, if the amount had been indexed by the CPI since 2005-06. This measure was withdrawn by the previous Government in the 2005-06 Budget and the figures below use the value of the measure in 2005-06 as the starting point.

	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Indexed Estimate (\$ million)	6.100	6.246	6.496	6.672

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**Output Group: 2.2**

**Question No: 127**

**Topic:** Young People in Nursing Homes

**Hansard Page:** CA44 29/5

**Senator McLucas** asked:

Can FaCSIA provide a table which indicates the Commonwealth contribution by year and by state and which also disaggregates each of the C/W contributions into the DOHA contribution and the FaCSIA contribution?

**Answer:**

The Commonwealth contribution, by year and by state and territory, under this program is as follows:

State/ Territory	Annual Funding Split 2006-2011 (as per bilateral agreements)					Total C'lth funds over 5 years
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-2010	2010-2011	
<b>NSW</b>	\$1,332,422	\$4,663,477	\$9,326,954	\$12,658,009	\$12,658,009	\$40,638,871
<b>VIC</b>	\$987,746	\$3,457,111	\$6,914,222	\$9,383,586	\$9,383,586	\$30,126,251
<b>QLD</b>	\$782,503	\$2,738,759	\$5,477,518	\$7,433,774	\$7,433,774	\$23,866,328
<b>SA</b>	\$301,714	\$1,055,998	\$2,111,995	\$2,866,279	\$2,866,279	\$9,202,265
<b>WA</b>	\$397,012	\$1,389,543	\$2,779,085	\$3,771,615	\$3,771,615	\$12,108,870
<b>TAS</b>	\$95,103	\$281,250	\$1,031,250	\$589,565	\$903,481	\$2,900,649
<b>NT</b>	\$39,838	\$139,443	\$278,865	\$378,460	\$378,460	\$1,215,066
<b>ACT</b>	\$63,663	\$222,819	\$445,638	\$604,794	\$604,794	\$1,941,706

All Commonwealth transfers to state and territory governments under this program are administered by FaCSIA. No program amounts are administered by the Department of Health and Ageing.

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**Output Group: 2.2**

**Question No: 148**

**Topic:** Parking Permits

**Hansard Page:** CA102

**Senator Boyce asked:**

I refer to eligibility, what other standardisations is this department looking at being responsible for?

**Answer:**

Disability Ministers, at their meeting of 1 February 2008, confirmed their support for the progression of this election commitment and requested a letter to be sent to Transport Ministers in each jurisdiction. The particular standardisations will be a matter for consideration in the work to be undertaken collaboratively between jurisdictions.

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**Output Group: 2.2**

**Question No: 150**

**Topic:** CSTDA

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Given the Labor Party promised to fast track the renegotiation of the CSTDA, why is there yet another six month extension of the old agreement? How much will this extension cost?

**Answer:**

The current CSTDA has been extended to allow the Australian Government along with state and territory governments sufficient time to work together to finalise an agreement that will meet the needs of all stakeholders. There is no additional cost associated with the extension of the current agreement. State and territory governments are continuing to receive their normal fortnightly indexed CSTDA payments.

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**Output Group: 2.2**

**Question No: 151**

**Topic:** CSTDA

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Is there going to be any additional funding? If so what will this be used for specifically?

**Answer:**

Detail of a fourth CSTDA is yet to be finalised. The Australian Government has however, announced that it will honour its election commitment to incorporate the Helping Older Carers funding component of the previous government's Disability Assistance Package into the Commonwealth State and Territory Disability Agreement (CSTDA).

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**Output Group: 2.2**

**Question No: 152**

**Topic:** Younger People with Disability in Residential Aged Care

**Hansard Page:** CA 80

**Senator Patterson** asked:

Who has secured the capital grant in New South Wales to procure ten accommodation places in the Sydney Metropolitan area ? Is it a specific facility or if they are located living alone or what sort of arrangement will it be ?

**Answer:**

The following information in response to this question has been supplied by the New South Wales Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care:

“In 2006/07 a grant was paid to the NSW Office of Community Housing (OCH) to purchase and modify/construct supported accommodation facility/ies for the [Younger People with Disability in Residential Aged Care Program] YPIRAC target population.

The location of these places will depend on the outcomes of a current Expression of Interest (EOI) process which aims to establish at least 100 new supported accommodation places across NSW for the YPIRAC target population. The EOI process commenced on 25 February 2008 and is scheduled to close on 18 April 2008.

The EOI is also seeking capital contributions from potential applicants. The grant to OCH will be used to provide capital solutions in those areas of NSW where the total capital solution for the proposed accommodation service cannot be established.”

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**Question No: 153**

**Topic:** Younger People with Disability in Residential Aged Care

**Hansard Page:** CA80

**Senator Patterson** asked:

Has the Wesley Mission Youngcare service in Queensland opened yet?

**Answer:**

The Youngcare Apartments, a purpose built complex of 14 one-bedroom, self-contained apartments located in Sinnamon Park in the western suburbs of Brisbane, were officially opened on 8 December 2007.

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**Question No: 154**

**Topic:** Younger People with Disability in Residential Aged Care

**Hansard Page:** CA81

**Senator Patterson** asked:

Which organisation is going to provide the ten bed high care needs facility in inner Melbourne?

**Answer:**

This facility will be operated by the Villa Maria Society, with a contribution of around \$2 million per annum towards recurrent operating costs under the Younger People with Disability in Residential Aged Care program (known in Victoria as *my future, my choice*).



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**Output Group: 2.2**

**Question No: 155**

**Topic:** Younger People with Disability in Residential Aged Care

**Hansard Page:** CA 81

**Senator Patterson** asked:

Can you provide the list of the six service providers in Western Australia ?

**Answer:**

Information on the organisations providing services in Western Australia under the Younger People with Disability in Residential Aged Care Program is included in the response to QoN 156.

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**Question No: 158**

**Topic:** Younger People with Disability in Residential Aged Care

**Hansard Page:** CA81

**Senator Polley** asked:

Can I have a breakdown of the locations of younger people in residential aged care in Tasmania? Where are these people residing now?

**Answer:**

As at December 2007, there were 145 people under 65 years of age permanently resident in a residential aged care facility in Tasmania. Of these people, 12 were under 50 years of age.

Of the 145 people under 65 years of age, 68 were in the southern area, 36 in the northern area and 29 in the north western area.

In order to protect the privacy of individuals receiving Australian Government services, information relating to the provision of services to individual persons is not released where there is a likelihood that such information might reasonably lead to the identification of a person. For this reason, it is not possible to provide the requested distribution within Tasmania of permanent residents of residential aged care facilities under 50 years of age.

To date, no relocations of persons under 65 years of age in residential aged care in Tasmania have occurred through the Younger People with Disability in Residential Aged Care program. A total of 16 enhanced services packages have been commenced, providing therapy services, aids and equipment, transport or day activity programs.

In addition, three packages of in-home assistance have commenced for people identified as having been at risk of admission to residential aged care.

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**Question No: 157**

**Topic:** Older Carers

**Hansard Page:** CA84

**Senator Patterson** asked:

Could you provide data on how many people there are between 60-65, 66-70, 71-75, 76-85 and 86 and over and how many in every category were caring for more than one child and/or a child and spouse or other dependents? Have you also got that broken down by state—how many in each age group in New South Wales, Victoria et cetera?

**Answer:**

Centrelink identified 5062 older carers who were potentially eligible for transition support assistance. The target group for Transition Support included all carers aged 65 and over in receipt of Carer Allowance who reside with the care recipient and have provided care for a significant period of time, and who are caring for an immediate family member (non-spouse) aged 40 years and over, with a profound or severe disability and in receipt of DSP. Therefore, data is not available for people aged between 60-65.

**Number of Carers by Age of Carer**

65-69	1466
70-74	1458
75-79	1144
80-84	699
85-89	252
90plus	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>5062</b>

*Source: Centrelink data, July 2007, Carer in receipt of Carer Allowance, Adult child with disability aged 40 and over in receipt of DSP.*

Information on people caring for more than one child and/or a child and spouse or other dependents was not collected as part of the Transition Support Measure.

We cannot provide information on how many in every category were caring for more than one child and/or a child and spouse and other dependents. However, it can be ascertained from Centrelink payment data that, of the 5062 older carers who were potentially eligible for Transition Support, 101 people were in receipt of Carer Allowance for more than one child.

For the 5062 potentially eligible older carers, the following table shows the state breakdown. This information is not readily available by age group.

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**Percentage of Older Carers by State/Territory**

ACT	1.0
NSW	32.9
NT	0.4
QLD	20.2
SA	8.2
TAS	2.7
VIC	28.2
WA	6.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Centrelink data, July 2007, Carer in receipt of Carer Allowance, Adult child with disability aged 40 and over in receipt of DSP.*

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**Question No: 159**

**Topic:** Mental Health Inquiry – Rollout of Indigenous Services

**Hansard Page:** CA98

**Senator Humphries** asked:

With regard to WA rollout there were three in the second round. I was wondering whether any of those fitted that definition?

**Answer:**

There are no Indigenous specific services or sites funded under the Personal Helpers and Mentors Program (PHaMS). In accordance with the terms of their Funding Agreements, all funded providers must tailor services to meet the needs of participants in their local site. As a result, PHaMS service providers must provide culturally appropriate services that are likely to improve recovery outcomes for Indigenous program participants. Some sites, because of their location do service predominantly Indigenous clients.

In Western Australia, there are three Round 1 sites that have been operating since May 2007. Approximately seven per cent of the clients in this State have identified as Indigenous.

The three Round 2 sites (including Wheatbelt, Bently Health Service and Midland/Guilford) are still establishing and information is not yet available on the number of Indigenous participants.

Of the PHaMS sites in Western Australia, three are in non-metropolitan locations and three in metropolitan locations. Sites were designated as either metropolitan or non- metropolitan by the state and territory Mental Health Working Groups. Where the majority of a site is regional, rural or remote it has been nominated as a non-metro site for our funding purposes.

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**Question No: 160**

**Topic:** National Companion Card Scheme

**Hansard Page:** CA101

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Can you provide information about the inconsistencies, conditions and the eligibility criteria in some states and how it compares with other states?

**Answer:**

The Victorian Government has licensed the Companion Card to Western Australia, South Australia, and Tasmania. These licence agreements provide for consistency of policy guidelines with the exception of the known inconsistencies in the following table:

**Table 1: Overview of inconsistencies, conditions and eligibility criteria for Companion Cards.**

<b>State Territory</b>	<b>Companion Card Scheme</b>	<b>Card Cost</b>	<b>Eligibility</b>	<b>Administration of the scheme</b>
NSW	No Scheme	-	-	-
ACT	No Scheme	-	-	-
QLD	No Scheme	-	-	-
NT	No Scheme	-	-	-
WA	Launched 2006	\$30	There is a common eligibility criteria for all licensed states and territories. The Companion Card is for people with a significant permanent disability, who always need a companion to provide attendant care type support in order to attend at most available community venues and activities. Attendant care type support includes significant assistance with mobility, communication, self-care or learning, where the use of aids, equipment or alternative strategies	National Disability Services Incorporated
SA	Launched 2007	\$0		SA Government
Victoria	Launched 2003	\$0		Victorian Government
Tasmania	Launched 2006	\$0		Tasmanian Government

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			do not enable the person to carry out these tasks. It does not include providing only reassurance, social company or encouragement.	
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Source: <http://www.vic.companioncard.org.au/cc/index.htm>

Inconsistencies also include administrative and assessment arrangements; review and appeal arrangements and reciprocal arrangements of the card across different jurisdictions.

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**Question No: 156**

**Topic:** Younger People with Disability in Residential Aged Care

**Hansard Page:** CA 81/82

**Senator Patterson** asked:

Can you provide the list of service providers of all States and Territories ? Could the list outline the services that are actually up and running and where they are and who is responsible. And if it has been allocated to a number of services, if it is four or five people that have been nominated to various services ? and how many beds are likely to be opened in each state before 2008 and June 2008 and May 2009 ?

**Answer:**

In accordance with the agreement reached at the Council of Australian Governments in February 2006 which mandated the establishment of the Younger People with Disability in Residential Aged Care Program, day-to-day management and administration of the Program is the responsibility of State and Territory Governments. This includes determining eligibility for participation in the Program, service prioritisation, allocation of funding to individual clients or service providers and systemic planning.

The following information is either provided directly by the relevant State Government disability services agency (New South Wales), or is derived from information provided by the relevant State or Territory Government disability services agency (all other jurisdictions).

In **New South Wales**, services are being provided under the Program as follows:

<b>Provider</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Number of clients</b>	<b>Nature of support</b>
Australian Home Care Services, Victoria	Hunter Local Planning Area (LPA)	4	Supported accommodation
Lifestyle Solutions	Hunter & Central Coast LPAs	7	“In-Reach” packages

- Additional supported accommodation places will roll out as the result of a current Expression of Interest (EOI) process which aims to establish at least 100 new supported accommodation places across NSW for the YPIRAC target population. The EOI process commenced on 25 February 2008 and is scheduled to close on 18 April 2008.
- Additional YPIRAC In-Reach Packages will roll out following the current tender process nearing completion that will establish a state-wide network of providers across NSW.



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- In-home support will also be provided to clients identified to move home/alone or remain home/alone with support through the YPIRAC Program.

In **Victoria**, the following services have commenced under the Program:

<b>Type of service</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Number of places</b>	<b>Commenced</b>	<b>Service provider</b>
Shared supported accommodation (medium to high needs)	Eastern suburban Melbourne	6	March 2008	Scope Victoria
Home-based support packages (including attendant care, rehabilitation, aids and equipment)	Victoria-wide	34 (individual support packages)	March 2008	Choice of provider
Enhanced services in residential aged care (including community access activities, aids and equipment, transport assistance, therapy and rehabilitation and social and family connection)	Victoria-wide	90 (individual service packages)	March 2008	Choice of provider

Funding has been committed towards the following services:

<b>Type of service</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Number of places</b>	<b>Commencement</b>	<b>Service provider</b>
Shared supported accommodation (high and complex needs)	Inner Melbourne	10	2008-09	Villa Maria Society
Shared supported accommodation (medium to high needs)	Suburban Melbourne	9	2008-09	Yooralla Ltd

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Shared supported accommodation (people with a degenerative neurological condition)	Suburban Melbourne	6	2008-09	Wesley Mission
	Suburban Melbourne	3	2008-09	Multiple Sclerosis Ltd

Submissions are currently being sought for the provision of a further 67 shared supported accommodation places across Victoria, expected to commence operation in 2008-09.

In **Queensland**, the following services have commenced under the Program:

<b>Type of service</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Number of places</b>	<b>Commenced</b>	<b>Service provider</b>
Home-based support packages	Across Queensland	4 (individual support packages)	2006-07	Far North Queensland Independent Living Association; Cerebral Palsy League of Queensland
Shared supported accommodation (high and complex needs)	Suburban Brisbane	16	December 2007	Wesley Mission / Youngcare Apartments
Home-based support packages	Across Queensland	10 (individual support packages)	2007-08	Spinal Injuries Association; Tablelands Respite Centre; Leeding Care; CASSI; Coastal Networks Inc; Life Without Barriers

Funding has been committed towards the following services:

<b>Type of service</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Number of places</b>	<b>Commencement</b>	<b>Service provider</b>
Shared supported accommodation (high and complex needs)	Far North Queensland	10	April 2008	St John's Community Care

In addition, funding was provided to the Brain Injury Association of Queensland to conduct 200 individual care needs assessments over two years 2006-07 to 2008-09.

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In **South Australia**, the following services have commenced under the Program:

<b>Type of service</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Number of places</b>	<b>Commenced</b>	<b>Service provider</b>
Shared supported accommodation	Across South Australia	9 in 2006-07, continuing in 2007-08	2006-07	Community Living and Support Services; Personal Support and Development (SA Govt); Paraplegic and Quadraplegic Association; Community Lifestyles Inc; Community Living Project Inc; Allied Health Services (SA Govt)
In home accommodation support services and respite services	Across South Australia	5 in 2006-07, continuing in 2007-08	2006-07	
Aids and equipment support	Adelaide	4	2006-07 only	Independent Living Equipment Program
In home accommodation support services and respite services	Across South Australia	7 further services	2007-08	Community Living and Support Services; Paraplegic and Quadraplegic Association; ESAR Home Care Pty Ltd
Aids and equipment support	Adelaide	2	2007-08 only	Independent Living Equipment Program
Enhanced services for people in residential aged care	Regional centres	5	2007-08	Paraplegic and Quadraplegic Association, Community Choice; Riverland respite.

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In **Western Australia**, the following services have commenced under the Program:

<b>Type of service</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Number of places</b>	<b>Commenced</b>	<b>Service provider</b>
In home support services	Perth, Pilbara	3	2006-07	Elba Inc; Pilbara and Kimberley Care
Accommodation and respite services	Across Western Australia	5	2006-07	MS Society; Transition and Integration Services; Nascha Inc; Midwest Community Living Association; Perth Homecare Services
Accommodation and respite services	Across Western Australia	10	2007-08	South West Family Support Association Inc; Baptistcare Inc; Midway Community Care Inc; Hills Community Support Group Inc; Care Options Inc; Senses Foundation; Nulsen Haven Association

Funding has been committed towards the following services:

<b>Type of service</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Number of places</b>	<b>Commencement</b>	<b>Service provider</b>
Shared supported accommodation	Perth metropolitan area	16	2010	Rocky Bay Inc

In **Tasmania**, enhanced services packages have been developed for 16 clients in residential aged care across the State, with further packages to commence in 2008-09. These packages draw on a range of service providers including therapeutic services, aids and equipment, transport and day support services. Three packages of services to divert 3 people with disability from admission to residential aged care commenced in 2007-08, and will continue into 2008-09. The providers are the Community Options Service and North West Residential Support Service.

In the **Northern Territory**, Life Without Barriers and Anglicare NT are to provide services to move or divert 5 people from residential aged care in Darwin and Alice Springs from 2008-09 (3 in 2007-08). Three packages of community access, social inclusion and therapy services are being provided as enhancement services for people in residential aged care.

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In the **Australian Capital Territory**, 4 packages of services across a range of service providers were developed in 2007-08 to divert younger people with disability from admission to residential aged care. These will continue into 2008-09. Assessment and transition planning will commence in 2008-09 for 4 younger people with disability currently in residential aged care.

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**Question No: 149**

**Topic: CSTDA**

**Hansard Page: CA85**

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

In Labor's policy they promised to "Guarantee the ongoing funding of disability services by fast tracking the renegotiation of a new CSTDA." Where is the Government at in their renegotiation of the new CSTDA?

**Answer:**

The Australian Government is continuing to work with State and Territory Governments on a fourth Commonwealth State Territory Disability Agreement (CSTDA). Disability Ministers met early in February 2008 to progress CSTDA negotiations and have agreed on the priorities for the next CSTDA. Disability Ministers met again on 30 May 2008 to continue work on the new Agreement. The Governments will continue to work collaboratively through the Community and Disability Services Ministers' Conference to develop the new agreement which will be in place from 1 January 2009.

The Council of Australian Governments' meeting on 26 March 2008 agreed to a new framework for Commonwealth-State financial relations which will result in a significant rationalisation of Specific Purpose Payments (SPPs). The reform will see a reduction from the current 92 SPPs to five or six new national agreements. The CSTDA is funded through a Specific Purpose Payment (SPP) and is directly affected by the reform of Commonwealth-State financial relations currently underway. State and Territory Governments are being consulted on the impact of the new framework as part of this process.  
Comments from MO.

Work also being progressed through the COAG reform of Comm-state relations & SPP's.

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**Question No: 161**

**Topic:** Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Nettle** asked:

“The *Support for Victims of People Trafficking* Program went out to tender on the 4<sup>th</sup> of August. The tender package refers to case management services for individuals who have shared information about trafficking with the Australian Federal Police, and who the Australian Federal Police have deemed to be of value in relation to prosecution of “traffickers” in Australia. Current sex workers make up a substantial number of the people affected by, and intended to be assisted by, anti-trafficking measures in Australia. Why then are they excluded from receiving housing and other services under *Support for Victims of People Trafficking* Program?”

**Answer:**

Sex workers are not excluded from receiving housing and other services under the Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program if they meet the eligibility criteria. Individuals who meet the eligibility criteria for Phase 2 of the Support for Victims of Trafficking Program are permitted to undertake any lawful employment within Australia. However, individuals are not permitted to conduct sex work within accommodation premises provided to them as part of the Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program.

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**Question No: 162**

**Topic:** Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Nettle** asked:

Individuals receiving support under the *Support for Victims of People Trafficking* Program, and who are willing and able to assist with the investigation or prosecution of a suspected trafficker, are granted access to “Phase 2” levels of services. This includes eligibility to undertake lawful employment in Australia. Working in the sex industry is legal, decriminalised, regulated and/or tolerated in most Australian cities. However individuals who have access to “Phase 2” services under the *Support for Victims of People Trafficking* Program are specifically excluded from working in the sex industry. Why?”

**Answer:**

Individuals who have access to “Phase 2” services under the Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program are not specifically excluded from working in the sex industry. Individuals who meet the eligibility criteria for Phase 2 of the Support for Victims of Trafficking Program are permitted to undertake any lawful employment within Australia. However, individuals are not permitted to conduct sex work within accommodation premises provided to them as part of the Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program.



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**Question No: 163**

**Topic:** Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Nettle** asked:

Sex industry regulation in Australia is the jurisdiction of state and territory governments. In most Australian cities it is not a criminal offence to work in the sex industry. However in the case of the *Support for Victims of People Trafficking* Program, case managers are obliged to notify the Australian Federal Police in the situation of a “Phase 2” trafficking informant seeking or securing employment in the sex industry. Why?

**Answer:**

The requirement to notify the AFP is to enable consideration of protective measures for vulnerable victims who may be at risk of being re-trafficked into the sex industry. This also assists the prosecution of traffickers to anticipate arguments from the defence regarding the credibility of witnesses who work in the sex industry following rescue from sexual slavery.

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**Question No: 164**

**Topic:** Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Nettle** asked:

What is the expected outcome of informing the Australian Federal Police about sex workers working while accessing “Phase 2” services in the *Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program*?

**Answer:**

The expected outcome of informing the Australian Federal Police about individuals accessing “Phase 2” of the Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program working in the sex industry is to:

- enable consideration of protective measures for vulnerable victims who may be at risk of being re-trafficked into the sex industry; and
- assist the prosecution of traffickers to anticipate arguments from the defence regarding the credibility of witnesses who work in the sex industry following rescue from sexual slavery.

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**Question No: 165**

**Topic:** Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Nettle** asked:

What is the expected outcome of excluding current sex workers from “Phase 2” services in the *Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program*

**Answer:**

Sex workers are not excluded from receiving “Phase 2” services under the Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program if they meet the eligibility criteria. Individuals who meet the eligibility criteria for Phase 2 of the Support for Victims of Trafficking Program are permitted to undertake any lawful employment within Australia. However, individuals are not permitted to conduct sex work within accommodation premises provided to them as part of the Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program.

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**Question No: 166**

**Topic:** Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Nettle** asked:

Given that it is identified in the Australian Government ‘Action Plan’ that people trafficking occurs in all industries, why is the sex industry singled out as an industry that people accessing “Phase 2” services in the *Support for Victims of People Trafficking* Program cannot work in?

**Answer:**

The sex industry is not singled out as an industry that people accessing “Phase 2” services under the Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program cannot work in. Individuals who meet the eligibility criteria for Phase 2 of the Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program are permitted to undertake any lawful employment within Australia. However, individuals are not permitted to conduct sex work within accommodation premises provided to them as part of the Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program.

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**Question No: 167**

**Topic:** Support for victims of People Trafficking Program

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Nettle** asked:

What information and advice guided the Office for the Status of Women to exclude sex workers from accessing “Phase 2” services in the *Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program*?

**Answer:**

Sex workers are not excluded from accessing “Phase 2” services under the Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program if they meet the eligibility criteria. Individuals who meet the eligibility criteria for Phase 2 of the Support for Victims of Trafficking Program are permitted to undertake any lawful employment within Australia. However, individuals are not permitted to conduct sex work within accommodation premises provided to them as part of the Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program.

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**Question No: 168**

**Topic:** Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Nettle** asked:

What community groups have been consulted in the creation of *Support for Victims of People Trafficking* Program?

**Answer:**

The Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program was developed in 2003 by the previous government and I am advised that no community groups were consulted at that time.

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**Question No: 169**

**Topic:** Support for Victims of People Trafficking program

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Nettle** asked:

In 2007 a national Working Party of state and territory representatives reported on the issue of “trafficking” to the mid-year Ministerial meetings. Where are these reports and at what time does the Government intend to make these reports public?

**Answer:**

The 2007 report from the National Trafficking and Sexual Slavery Working Party has been distributed to members of the relevant stakeholder portfolios who participated. The report was also distributed to Ministers at the Commonwealth, State, Territories & New Zealand Ministers Conference on the Status of Women and the Ministers at the Ministerial Council on Multicultural and Immigration Affairs in August 2007.

The reports were not intended for public release and the Australian Government would need to consult with state and territory governments and stakeholders to see if they would agree to make the reports public.

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**Topic:** Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Nettle** asked:

What community group representation and consultations were sought during the preparation of these reports?

**Answer:**

The National Trafficking and Sexual Slavery Working Party consulted with a broad range of non-government stakeholders in the women's and social justice sector, such as Project Respect and the Scarlet Alliance, and utilised information from published literature such as the Australian NGO Shadow Report on Trafficked Women in Australia initiated by the Australian Religious Congregations Anti-Trafficking Working Group and endorsed by 26 community groups.



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**Question No: 171**

**Topic:** Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Nettle** asked:

What are the perceived negative outcomes of allowing individuals accessing “Phase 2” services in the *Support for Victims of People Trafficking* Program to work in the sex industry?

**Answer:**

Individuals accessing Phase 2 services under the Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program are allowed to work in the sex industry. The perceived negative outcomes of this scenario are that:

- security implications need to be considered for vulnerable victims who may be at risk of being re-trafficked into the sex industry; and
- the individual’s credibility as a witness in the prosecution of a people trafficking offence could be undermined due to perceptions about working in the sex industry following rescue from sexual slavery.

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**Question No: 172**

**Topic:** Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Nettle** asked:

On what basis did the Office for Women determine that there are perceived negative outcomes of allowing individuals accessing “Phase 2” services in the *Support for Victims of People Trafficking* Program to work in the sex industry?

**Answer:**

This position was developed on advice from the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions and the Australian Federal Police that defence counsel for people trafficking prosecutions have tried to undermine the credibility of witnesses who work in the sex industry.

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**Question No: 173**

**Topic:** Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Nettle** asked:

What research did the Office for Women use as a basis to determine that there are perceived negative outcomes of allowing individuals accessing “Phase 2” services in the *Support for Victims of People Trafficking* Program to work in the sex industry?

**Answer:**

Individuals who meet the eligibility criteria for Phase 2 services under the Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program are permitted to undertake any lawful employment within Australia, including work within the sex industry. However, individuals are not permitted to undertake sex work in accommodation provided under the Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program. This requirement was developed upon advice from the Australian Federal Police and Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions.

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**Question No: 174**

**Topic:** Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Nettle** asked:

What are the perceived positive outcomes of disallowing individuals accessing “Phase 2” services in the *Support for Victims of People Trafficking* Program from working in the sex industry?

**Answer:**

Individuals accessing “Phase 2” services under the Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program are not disallowed to work in the sex industry. Individuals who met the eligibility criteria for phase 2 of the Support for Victims of Trafficking Program are permitted to undertake any lawful employment within Australia. However, individuals are not permitted to conduct sex work within accommodation premises provided to them as part of the Support for Victims of People Trafficking Program.

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**Question No: 175**

**Topic:** AppointWomen

**Hansard Page:** CA72

**Senator Nettle** asked:

How many requests from Government Agencies and departments has FaHCSIA had?

**Answer:**

Since the upgraded web-based version of the AppointWomen Executive Search Service was launched in July 2007 until 1 February 2008, the Office for Women processed 21 search requests and recommended 143 women for positions on Australian Government boards.

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**Question No: 176**

**Topic:** Women's Leadership and Development Programme

**Hansard Page:** CA74

**Senator Adams asked:**

Can you supply the committee of all the rural programs last year?

**Answer:**

Organisation	Activity/Event	Funding (ex GST)
Rural Women's Gathering Committee	Sponsorship of the 12 <sup>th</sup> Annual Rural Women's Gathering held in Clare, South Australia from 17 to 19 August 2007	\$4,000
Tasmanian Women in Agriculture (TWiA)	"ME Mentoring and Engagement" Building Partnerships Project - workshops and a website to enhance engagement with TWiA members and promote the knowledge of TWiA to the general community. The project is expected to be completed in mid 2008	\$24,250
Australian Women in Agriculture	An Interactive Website for Australian Women in Agriculture - to support increased communication, networking and access to training and education for members  The project is expected to be completed in mid 2008	\$25,000
Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC)	Sponsorship of RIRDC Rural Women's Award, which aims to increase women's capacity to contribute to rural Australia by providing training and support to further develop their skills and abilities, particularly in leadership and corporate governance	\$50,000
Young Women's Leadership and Mentoring Programme (YWLMP) Pilots	The YWLMP pilots aimed to increase the leadership skills of young women aged 18 to 35 in rural and regional Australia through leadership training and mentoring opportunities. 93 young women participated	

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	<p>in the pilots which were delivered by three agencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wheatbelt Area Consultative Group (Western Australia) \$120,000</li> <li>• Baw Baw Shire Council (Victoria) \$120,000</li> <li>• RIRDC (Wide Bay Burnett Region of Queensland) \$125,740</li> </ul>	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$468,990</b>

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**Question No: 028**

**Topic:** Northern Territory Emergency Response - income management

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Is the Department on schedule for the rollout of welfare quarantining?

**Answer:**

The Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER) Operations Centre, in consultation with relevant government agencies, has developed a schedule for implementing income management. Implementation is proceeding in line with the schedule.

The implementation schedule is used as a planning document and guide. Adjustments to the schedule are made where necessary, however there have not been significant adjustments to date.

The implementation schedule will continue to be informed by on-the-ground assessments of communities and collaborative planning between agencies.



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**Question No: 143**

**Topic:** NTER Income Management

**Hansard Page:** CA58

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Can you provide a list of those communities who have had income management rolled out?

**Answer:**

Please see attached a list of communities that have commenced income management at 18 March 2008.

Northern Territory Emergency Response  
 Implementation and Commencement of Income Management  
 in Prescribed Communities  
 as at 18 March 2008

Southern Roll out

<b>Cluster</b>	<b>Communities</b>	<b>Income Management Start Date</b>
Cluster 1:	Finke (Apatula), Imanpa, Mutitjulu and Titjikala	17 Sept 07
Cluster 2:	Areyonga, Hermannsburg, Santa Teresa, Tjuwanpa and Wallace Rockhole	19 Nov 07
Cluster 3:	Kaltukatjara (Docker River), Kintore, Mt Liebig and Papunya	11 Dec 07
Cluster 4:	Alice Town Camps, Amoonguna and Ingkerreke	7 Jan 08

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Northern Rollout

<b>Cluster</b>	<b>Communities</b>	<b>Income Management Start Date</b>
Cluster 1:	Palumpa and Peppimenarti	26 Nov 07
Cluster 2:	Barunga, Binjari, Bulman, Katherine Town Camps, Manyallaluk (Eva Valley) and Weemol	12 Dec 07
	Beswick	24 Dec 07
Cluster 3 (a)	Acacia Larrakia and Nauiyu (Daly River)	13 Dec 07
Cluster 3 (c)	Wadeye*	14 Jan 08
Cluster 3 (b)	Adelaide River Town Camp (Amangal), Belyuen and Darwin Town Camps^ (CDEP transition occurred on 16 Nov 07)	25 Feb 07

\* Denotes modified, moved to new Cluster.

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**Question No: 144**

**Topic:** Northern Territory Emergency Response – income management

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Moore** asked:

Can we get a copy of the policy document that talks about stored value card?

**Answer:**

The cards that Centrelink purchases from third parties (such as Woolworths and Coles) and issues to income-managed customers are considered ‘vouchers’ under the *Social Security (Administration) Act 1999*.

The following is excerpted from the Northern Territory Income Management Interim Policy Guide (September 2007).

***What actions does Centrelink take to meet priority needs?***

The legislation allows for priority needs to be paid for in a number of ways. Initially it is expected that most income managed funds will be directed to crediting of a store account or to expense payments. Other methods of making funds available through income management will be rolled out following the initial implementation in the NT.

The following are actions that Centrelink may take to allow a person access to the managed income.

**Crediting an account**

This action is the payment of an amount to a third person on condition they credit it to an account held by the person with the third person. An example, would be crediting a community store account on behalf of the customer.

Monies held in such an account are for acquiring goods and services and are not to be used to meet account-related fees and charges. One of the conditions on which the money is paid into the account is that any unspent amount is repaid to Centrelink on request.

The crediting of accounts made available by financial institutions would generally be covered by the ‘transfer to account’ action detailed below.

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**Expense payment**

This action is a payment to discharge (in full or in part) an obligation of the person to pay an amount to a third party (i.e. to pay a debt or bill of the person such as a rent payment or potentially to meet expenditure incurred on a debit card). Centrelink can do this through Centrepay, BPAY, bank transfers, cheque, cash etc).

**Voucher**

A form that specifies a particular monetary amount that enables a person to acquire goods or services, excluding cash.

**Stored value card**

A portable device that is capable of storing monetary value in a form other than physical currency.

**Transfers to accounts**

This action is similar to crediting an account but would generally be used in the case of an account made available by a financial institution, such as a bank. A non-bank institution would need to be specified by the Minister in a legislative instrument before one of its accounts could be credited with income managed funds. An example of such an account is a debit card.

Monies held in such an account are for acquiring goods and services and may be used to meet account-related fees and charges.

**Restricted direct payment**

A payment direct to the person via the person's bank account (including joint accounts) or with the person's consent to a third party's account (e.g. nominee's account or in the case of youth allowance at the dependant rate under 18, the parents' account)

**Unrestricted direct payment**

A direct payment by cheque, cash, stored value card (e.g. EBT card), to the person's bank account or with the person's consent (via any of these methods) to a third party (e.g. to a nominee or in the case of youth allowance at the dependant rate under 18, the parents)

Centrelink must not make a payment or take an action regarding income managed funds that allows the person to access, purchase or obtain excluded goods or excluded services.

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In the case of the NT Income Management Regime, the Minister has determined that no amounts from income managed funds are to be paid as unrestricted direct payments, given that generally only 50 per cent of welfare payments are subject to income management.

**Moneys not subject to Restrictions**

The framework does not contain any restrictions on how money not subject to income management may be spent. Similarly, it contains no restrictions on how an unrestricted direct payment may be spent. Other aspects of the NT emergency response contain restrictions on alcohol and pornography.

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**Question No: 177**

**Topic:** National Affordability Rental Scheme

**Hansard Page:** CA114

**Senator Payne** asked:

The Minister is quoted as saying “we are now over thirty thousand homes short across the country” can you confirm that this is an industry estimate?

**Answer:**

This figure is sourced from the Reserve Bank of Australia’s Statement of Monetary Policy released on 12 November 2007. In the discussion of Housing in the Chapter on Domestic Economic Conditions, the statement refers to “Recently updated estimates based on data from the 2006 Census suggest that underlying demand due to demographic factors is around 180,000 dwellings per year, whereas only around 150,000 new dwellings were commenced over the past year”.

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**Output Group: 4.1**

**Question No: 178**

**Topic: CSHA**

**Hansard Page: CA115**

**Senator Payne asked:**

Can you provide a figure of the number of new houses that the states and territories have contributed for the term of the current agreement?

**Answer:**

The following table shows the total housing stock under the Commonwealth State Housing Agreement (CSHA) for the last year of the 1999 CSHA and the first years of the 2003 CSHA.

Total Commonwealth State Housing Agreement Stock

<b>At 30 June</b>	
2002-03	393,325
2003-04	391,942
2004-05	392,489
2005-06	391,310
2006-07	395,059

Sources: Housing Assistance Act 1996 Annual Reports 2002-03 to 2005-06, Commonwealth State Housing Agreement national data reports 2006-07, AIHW.

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**Question No: 179**

**Topic:** Equine Workers Hardship Wage Supplement Payment

**Hansard Page:** CA117

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Has the Equine Workers hardship been resolved?

**Answer:**

The Equine Workers Hardship Wage Supplement Payment (the Equine Payment) is an ex-gratia income support payment payable to eligible individuals whose primary source of income was horse-dependent, and who could demonstrate loss of this income as a direct result of the Equine Influenza outbreak.

The Equine Payment was implemented on 9 September 2007 and backdated to 25 August 2007 when Equine Influenza was officially declared. The Equine Payment closed on 14 March 2008. Assistance was available for a total of 29 weeks.

Equine Influenza cases have been confined to New South Wales and Queensland. On 28 February 2008 and 14 March 2008, New South Wales and Queensland respectively were officially declared Equine Influenza free with all properties resolved and all previously affected areas becoming declared green zones. If there are no further cases detected, Australia is expected to be declared Equine Influenza free by 30 June 2008.



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**Question No: 180**

**Topic:** Increase in Community Engagement Appropriation

**Hansard Page:** CA117

**Senator Bernardi** asked:

Why the Community Engagement Appropriation has lifted from \$63.377m to \$65.682m?

**Answer:**

The Budget estimate for the Community Engagement appropriation increased from \$63.377m to \$65.682m due to additional funding for two commitments made by the former government; Daughters of Charity; and Foodbank SA and savings from a Government Election commitment to abolish the Community Business Partnership.