

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

**Group 2**

**Output 1.5**

**Question No. 184**

**Senator Wright asked the following question at the hearing of 23 May 2012:**

- a) What progress has been made on the negotiation of a National Indigenous Safe Communities Strategy?
- b) To what extent have those negotiations included discussions about incorporating a Justice Reinvestment approach into the National Indigenous Safe Communities Strategy?
- c) Is there a planned timetable for further development and completion of the National Indigenous Safe Communities Strategy?
- d) Please outline all consultation processes that have been undertaken to date with respect to the development of the National Indigenous Safe Communities Strategy.
- e) What further consultation will be conducted prior to the finalisation of the National Indigenous Safe Communities Strategy?

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

The Attorney-General's Department and the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs are continuing to lead discussions with State and Territory governments on a national Indigenous Safe Communities Strategy.

Priority areas for action are being considered. A broad range of approaches, including justice reinvestment, are open for consideration.

A joint meeting of the Standing Council on Law and Justice's Indigenous Justice Working Group and the Working Group on Indigenous Reform's (WGIR) Indigenous Reform Coordination Sub-Group (IRCSG) was held in Sydney on 28-29 March 2012.

The Commonwealth has and will continue to engage with jurisdictions bilaterally and multilaterally. Discussions on the strategy will occur at WGIR and IRCSG throughout 2012.

Options for consultation on the strategy with Indigenous representative groups are also being considered.