

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 2: Indigenous
Topic: National justice targets

Senator: Dodson

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Question:

What does the Change the Record coalition, the Productivity Commission and the UN Special Rapporteur say about national justice targets?

Answer:

In its Blueprint for Change published in 2015, the Change the Record coalition called on the Commonwealth, state and territory governments to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, their organisations and representative bodies to forge agreement through the Council of Australian Governments to set the following justice targets:

1. close the gap in the rates of imprisonment between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people by 2040; and
2. cut the disproportionate rates of violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to at least close the gap by 2040; with priority strategies for women and children.

Following her visit to Australia, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous peoples, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, made the following comments in the End of Mission Statement:

“I therefore strongly recommend the inclusion of targets on justice in the Closing the Gap strategy and the development and implementation of a national plan of action to address these issues.”

The Productivity Commission has not made statements about national justice targets.