

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2011-12 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 7

Question No: 307

Topic: NTER

Hansard Page: 17/2/2012 - CA24

Senator Siewert asked:

Who makes the decision about which communities have new signs? How much do they cost? Who pays for them?

Answer:

The Australian Government commenced the redesign of highway and community signs during 2011 to make signs more respectful, in response to community feedback. Aboriginal communities and Town Camps in the Northern Territory are involved in decisions on whether they would like new community signs installed.

Government Business Managers and Indigenous Engagement Officers work with the local community on the redesign process for community signs which may include local artwork and wording. The wording for community signs is approved by the Northern Territory Executive Director of Licensing Regulation and Alcohol Strategy, on advice from the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

Preliminary estimates provided by the Northern Territory Department of Justice for the redesign and installation of redesigned community signs is \$407 per sign, plus \$1.55 per km travelled for installation. Funding for the production and installation of the new community signs has been provided to the Northern Territory Department of Justice from the *Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory National Partnership Agreement Schedule C - Substance Abuse*.