

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

Outcome Number: 7

Question No: 436

Topic: Baniyala leases

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Scullion asked:

If a Land Council declines to grant leases under the Aboriginal Lands Rights Act, and the departments view is that the Land Councils decision to decline the leases is not reasonable, what options are available to the department to resolve the matter?

Answer:

The *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* governs the manner in which a land council performs its functions.

Neither the Minister nor the Department has power to direct the Northern Land Council on this matter.