

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 23-27 February 2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: Outcome 2: Indigenous

Topic: Indigenous Advancement Strategy – Safety and Wellbeing Stream – Protective Behaviours

Senator: Senator Dean Smith

Question reference number: 81

Type of question: FPA Friday 27 February 2015, pages 59 – 60

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 10 April 2015

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator SMITH: In regard to the Safety and Wellbeing Programme, how many applications were received under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy specifically for that stream?

Ms Carroll: We would have to take that on notice because a number of providers will have applied across a range of streams, but we could take that away and see what is possible.

Senator SMITH: So, in the same way that the evidence was provided at the beginning: the number of projects that have been applied for; the number of organisations that represents.

Ms Edwards: Can I just add that people might have applied for activities which would be viewed as falling under the Safety and Wellbeing Program, but we would not have assessed them as particularly for that stream, because that stream is now encompassed in the whole. It would be able to tell you what providers it used to provide—social and emotional wellbeing activities are again funded—but we will not be able to tell you which ones applied for social and emotional wellbeing, because there is no such category under the new program structure.

Senator SMITH: Right. I want to get a sense, starting from the Indigenous Advancement Strategy, of how many projects were put forward in the scope of the safety and wellbeing—

Ms Edwards: To provide the activities that used to be provided under the social—yes.

Senator SMITH: Yes; the number of projects that have been applied for, and what that represents in terms of organisations as well. What is the scope of the Safety and Wellbeing Program, and does it include protective behaviours?

Ms Edwards: You might have to explain to me exactly what you mean by "protective behaviours"?

Senator SMITH: "Protective behaviours" is the term that has been used with me from various stakeholders who engage in, unfortunately, having to teach young Indigenous people how to protect themselves from sexual abuse.

Ms Edwards: That is an activity which could be included within the scope of the Safety and Wellbeing Program.

Senator SMITH: I would like to know how many projects were applied for in regard to protective behaviour initiatives.

Ms Carroll: We will take that on notice. Broadly, the kinds of things that fit within 2.3, Safety and wellbeing, are, for example, the family violence legal services; alcohol and other drug services; a range of what you would consider a safety or a wellbeing frame. Before, we have given broad categories, but we can have a look at what has been provided before.

Answer:

As part of the broader Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS) funding round, organisations were able to apply across all five programme streams on one application form. Organisations were not required to put in individual applications for individual programme streams.

In regard to the Safety and Wellbeing Programme, a total number of 1,071 applications were considered for either sole funding from the Safety and Wellbeing Programme or for funding contributions to other IAS programme streams. Within those applications there were 1,692 projects. The number of organisations was 1,043.

The number of projects that relate to protective behaviour initiatives is not able to be quantified as applicants may have included protective behaviours as an element of their proposed project without specific reference to this activity.