



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Ms Lyn Beverley
Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

CORRECTIONS TO HANSARD Additional Estimates 27 February 2015

I am writing to correct the advice provided by an officer of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet at the cross portfolio hearing on Indigenous matters on Friday 27 February 2015.

This is a matter that has just come to the attention of the Department and we wish to advise the Committee promptly.

During the Committee questioning, Senator Siewert queried the total value of the applications submitted under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS) 2014 grant funding round. The Departmental officer, Ms Black, noted that the IAS grant funding round was heavily subscribed and provided advice that the funding requested was in the order of \$14 billion. Ms Black also provided additional context around this figure noting that there were a number of applications that requested significantly high funding amounts.

The Department wishes to provide a correction to the record and advise the Committee that the total funding requested under the IAS grant funding round was less than \$14 billion. This was due to a data entry error that has subsequently been found and the Department is now undergoing a final check. We will provide an update to the Committee at a later date. As noted at the hearing, the IAS grant funding round was heavily subscribed and a number of applications requested very high funding amounts, and this remains the case.

If it would be useful, the Department would be willing to meet, post announcement, with members of the Committee and provide a briefing on the outcomes of the IAS grant funding round.

Please note, I am not able to provide the relevant Hansard reference as the Hansard for 27 February 2015 has not yet been published.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Yours sincerely

Liza Carroll
Associate Secretary
Indigenous Affairs Group

3 March 2015