

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 2: Indigenous
Topic: Indigenous Advisory Council - New Council Members

Senator: Dodson, Patrick

Question reference number: 182

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 13 April 2017

Number of pages: 2

Question:

1. What process was followed to decide the new members of the Council?
2. Was a recommendation provided by the Department to the Prime Minister?
3. On what date was a decision taken to appoint the new members? Who took that decision?
4. On what date were they informed?
5. Were any people offered positions that did not accept?
6. In the media release of 17 February, it indicates that further members may be appointed in consultation with the new members, and that terms of reference will be drawn up. Can you please outline the process from here?
7. Has a budget been allocated to the IAC? Over what years will the funding extend?

Answer:

1. The nomination of members for the second term of the Indigenous Advisory Council (IAC) went through Cabinet processes.
2. The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet provides advice to the Prime Minister, the Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP, on a range of issues and we do not divulge the nature of that advice.
3. The decision was taken by the Commonwealth Government.
4. 7 February 2017.
5. Yes.
6. Members appointed to the IAC will consider the draft Terms of Reference and determine if additional expertise is required to assist them meet those Terms of Reference. Any recommendations for additional membership will go through the usual Cabinet process.

7. Total funding of \$1.7 million has been allocated for 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy to support the operations of the IAC.