

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates 26 May-6 June 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Aboriginal Benefits Account – grant acquittal process

Senator: Senator Cory Bernardi

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Question:

Senator Scullion: Just for clarification...

But it would not have been in the normal way that government would provide a grant in that, once the grant was out of the door in terms of the Aboriginals Benefit Trust Account, it was probably not subject to the same acquittal processes as it would have been if a government grant had been provided. They are slightly different, and perhaps on notice I could provide some of those differences.

CHAIR: That is great, but there is a—

Senator WONG: Ms Carroll has something to add on this point.

Ms Carroll: I was just going to add that there are acquittal processes. The particular grant, I understand, has not been fully acquitted yet. But we could take on notice the details of what those acquittal processes are.

CHAIR: Thank you. I would appreciate that

Answer:

Grants issued under the Aboriginals Benefit Account are subject to an acquittal process. The terms and conditions of the Standard Funding Agreement outline the acquittal process and can be viewed

at: http://www.dpmc.gov.au/indigenous_affairs/grants/grant_funding_ABA.cfm