

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: Delivery arrangements National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing

Senator: Senator Cory Bernardi

Question reference number: 287

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 July 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

1. Are you satisfied with the current delivery arrangements under the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing in terms of Indigenous employment and contracting in the Torres Strait?
2. What do you think we could do to make it better?

Answer:

1. Under the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing (NPARIH), housing delivery and procurement is a state government responsibility. Under NPARIH the Queensland (Qld) Government is required to meet an Employment and Workforce Development target of 20 per cent for Indigenous employment in capital works. To date, Qld has consistently met or exceeded this target.

The Qld Government is responsible for prioritising capital works delivery across the state. The Qld Government has advised that work in the Torres Strait is proposed for the later stages of the partnership.

2. The Commonwealth is currently in the process of negotiating NPARIH implementation plans with states to cover the next financial year. This includes considering ways to maximise employment outcomes.