

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates Hearing 25-29 May 2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 2: Indigenous
Topic: Municipal and Essential Services

Senator: Senator the Hon Jan McLucas

Question reference number: 323

Type of question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

The Northern Territory Government is currently required to report to the Commonwealth Government where and how federal funding for municipal and essential services has been spent. How will the Government ensure that the Northern Territory Government uses the Commonwealth payment to continue to deliver municipal and essential services remote communities?

Has the Minister sought an assurance from the Northern Territory Government that it will continue to fund essential services for all 376 communities, outstations and homelands currently funded under the National Partnership Agreement on Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory?

Answer:

Administration of the payment will be a matter for the Northern Territory Government.

The Northern Territory Chief Minister Adam Giles has publicly stated "...communities will continue [to] operate the way they currently are...we'll continue to maintain those services".