

**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 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Topic:** Ice Taskforce

**Senator:** Senator Nick Xenophon

**Question reference number:** 127

**Type of question:** Written

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

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Is the best response to the Ice crisis one of law enforcement, drug rehabilitation or public education and avoidance – or all three? Can you discuss the relative weighting for these approaches?

**Answer:**

The National Ice Taskforce (‘the Taskforce’) consulted with local communities, and heard from experts and individuals who have a particular expertise in relation to drug addiction and support services. These consultations included consideration of all of the above approaches.

The outcomes of these consultations, along with the input received from written submissions to the Taskforce will inform the Taskforce’s deliberations. The Taskforce delivered an interim report to the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) meeting on 23 July 2015. All governments agreed to work with the Taskforce to develop a National Ice Action Strategy for agreement at the next COAG meeting.