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

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 2: Indigenous
Topic: IAS – Community-led Proposals

Senator: Peris, Nova
Question reference number: 12
Type of question: FPA Thursday 5 May 2016, page 135
Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 14 September 2016

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator PERIS: How many applications has the minister approved since the beginning of the year?
Ms Black: Calendar year or financial year?
Senator PERIS: Calendar year, so since 1 January this year.
Ms Black: I do not have that with me. I am sorry.
Senator PERIS: Do you have it for the financial year?
Ms Black: I have it globally for you, which I have given. I do not have it broken down by financial year. We could do that quite quickly, though, for you.
Senator PERIS: Okay. Maybe this is a question for the minister. What about in the last four weeks? How many applications have been approved?
Senator Scullion: How many would I have approved?
Senator PERIS: You said that you have approved a couple in the last couple of days.
Senator Scullion: I do not have a recollection of how many the number would be. There is a regular flow amongst the briefs, though some are IASs and some are a whole range of other things. I can take that on notice, though.
Senator PERIS: That would be great—thank you. What is the process for releasing funding under the IAS during the caretaker period? I think you have given us some documents.

Answer:

1. Between 1 January 2016 and 5 May 2016, 243 Funding Agreements were executed.
2. Between 1 July 2015 and 5 May 2016, 1,513 Funding Agreements were executed.
3. Between 1 April 2016 and 5 May 2016, 236 applications were approved pending execution.

Funding is recorded in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's grants systems by execution date and not approval date. The response to question three was developed through manual processes.