

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 20-24 October 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Second Action Plan 2013-16

Senator: Senator Claire Moore

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Question:

Senator McKENZIE: Was there any specific issues around regional areas? I know in my home state of Victoria, Gippsland in particular has some data with particular issues for domestic violence. Could you comment more broadly on how the plan will affect those in regional areas?

Ms McDevitt: We may need to take that on notice, but I am certainly aware that that was an issue raised by many stakeholders in terms of both how the data looks in rural and regional Australia and how implementation of all of the measures in the plan can be rolled out so that they are supporting communities and women and their families in rural and regional Australia as well.

Answer:

There are a range of national initiatives under the Second Action Plan to support women living in rural, regional and remote areas, including:

- work to engage the community more at the local level to reduce violence, including through Our WATCH;
- national support services, such as 1800RESPECT and DV alert; and
- research driven by Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety, including specific projects in their 2014-2016 research programme entitled 'Seeking help for domestic violence: exploring rural women's coping experiences' and 'Advocacy for safety: good practice and innovative approaches with Indigenous women experiencing family and domestic violence in remote and regional Australia'.