Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 19-23 October 2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet
Topic: The cost of violence against women and their children

Senator: Originator Title Claire Moore
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Question:

Senator MOORE: We will not waste time. It is a really good document, and I would think that somewhere down the track it would be a very useful thing to review the information from the 2015-16 perspective, because it looks at a lot of the stuff in terms of costs to the community. I will again put on record my concern that we do not know how much is being spent on domestic violence in this country. We have just had a significant announcement of $100 million, which we welcome. How could you not welcome that? It was a response to one element of the process, and as you have said, we have had state governments making announcements. I would have thought, looking at the role of the Office of Women to coordinate activities, that there could be some value in doing some analysis of what is being spent—with the provisos that I note, because we could go down the rabbit warrens of how much Centrelink has spent. I would like to get a really short answer—because we probably will not agree. It seems to me that if we are identifying the issue and the clear cost to the community, it may be useful for the community to know how much governments are spending.
Ms Cross: I think that is something we could certainly look at. We would need to raise it with state ministers—
Senator MOORE: Absolutely, yes.

Answer:

There is currently no information available that aggregates current domestic violence funding across programmes and across jurisdictions.