

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 2: Indigenous

Topic: Cooperative, mutual and member-owned firms

Senator: Senator Nick Xenophon

Question reference number: 156

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 December 2015

Number of pages: 1

Question:

The Charles Sturt University research shows the Co-op model to be a viable sustainable Community advancement medium. Has or will the portfolio undertake a broader examination of whether or not restructuring from a Co-op has any long term positive advantage?

Answer:

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has not undertaken a broad examination of whether or not restructuring from a cooperative has any long term positive advantage. The implementation of the Indigenous Advancement Strategy will be subject to evaluation over time, including assessment of the Strengthening Organisational Governance policy.

The Strengthening Organisational Governance policy is aimed at ensuring organisations receiving Australian Government funding to deliver Indigenous programmes have high standards of governance and accountability. Incorporation under Commonwealth legislation provides a robust regulatory framework and access to specialist assistance that helps improve public confidence in the security and delivery of services.