

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

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous

**Topic:** Don Dale

**Senator:** Dodson, Patrick

**Question reference number:** 118

**Type of question:** FPA Friday 21 October 2016, page 40

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 3 December 2016

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Senator DODSON: So you cannot tell me whether there were charges laid or not?

Senator Scullion: We can take that on notice; that was some time ago. But I agree, there was—

Senator DODSON: It would have been useful if charges were laid. It may have arrested the awfulness that we have been seeing.

Mr Matthews: It is always a difficult thing for us to get a line of sight on a jurisdiction's policing matters from the Commonwealth—

Senator Scullion: But we will find out what happened to that investigation, if that would be of use to you.

Senator DODSON: Yes.

**Answer:**

This is the responsibility of the Northern Territory Government. The Northern Territory Police laid criminal charges in relation to a number of complaints arising from incidents in the Don Dale Detention Centre. Investigations by the Northern Territory Child Abuse Taskforce in relation to further complaints are underway but have yet to lead to the laying of criminal charges in relation to those matters.