

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: Indigenous Advancement Strategy

Senator: Dodson, Patrick

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Type of question: Written

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Question:

The 2016/17 budget papers refer to \$256 million for Safety and Wellbeing measures; can you please detail what specific measures or providers will be funded on the ground to improve community safety and to address the drivers of Indigenous incarceration?

Answer:

As at 30 September 2016, over 360 organisations are funded under the Safety and Wellbeing (S&W) programme to deliver over 470 activities aimed at improving community safety and wellbeing. These activities all go toward addressing reducing risky behaviours and circumvent contact with the criminal justice system.

Overall, the S&W Programme funds activities that:

- reduce alcohol and other drugs misuse;
- reduce re-offending – through the delivery of crime prevention (including support for remote policing), diversion and rehabilitation activities;
- support victims – in particular women and children;
- improve wellbeing – including better connections to family and community; and
- create a safe and functional environment – through the delivery of community patrols.

In 2016-17 the S&W programme is funding 36 activities totalling \$16.2 million that aim to specifically address the drivers of Indigenous incarceration. These include:

- 10 prisoner through care activities (\$7 million) which seek to reduce offending behaviour by prisoners upon their release by addressing their criminogenic needs and assisting them to re-integrate with their communities to lead crime-free lives; and
- 26 Indigenous justice activities (\$9.2 million) which seek to reduce Indigenous offenders by diverting them from further contact with the criminal justice system.