

**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:** Justice Targets

**Senator:** Dodson, Patrick

**Question reference number:** 187

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 2 December 2016

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

In September, the Minister said:

"The Commonwealth can't have a justice target because we have none of the levers to effect the outcomes in terms of incarceration or the justice system, but the states and territories do," he told the ABC. They have all the levers, can make real inroads. We want to work with the states in ensuring that we use whatever levers we can and whatever persuasion we can for them to adopt the justice targets."

Isn't it the case that all Closing the Gap targets are negotiated and agreed between the states and the territories?

Has the Minister personally met with representatives from Change the Record?

**Answer:**

Yes. However, there is variation between jurisdictions in the application of the Closing the Gap targets.

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is not aware of any meeting between the Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion, and Change the Record.