

**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:** Family Violence Protection

**Senator:** Dodson, Patrick

**Question reference number:** 190

**Type of question:** Written

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

**Number of pages:** 3

**Question:**

We know that Indigenous women are 34 times more likely to be hospitalised due to family violence incidents than non-Indigenous women.

We also know that Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people represented 15.3% of clients to community legal centres.

These statistics are particularly concerning as the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population of Australia is estimated as 3% of the total Australian population.

1. The 2016 Budget included \$100 million for family violence prevention measures. How much of this will be committed to Indigenous communities?
2. Will any of this funding be delivered to Family Violence Prevention Legal Services?
3. In September last year the Government announced a separate \$100 million in funding for family violence prevention measures. Minister Scullion said this included \$21 million on specific measures for Indigenous women and communities. What are these measures? In what communities?
4. In June Senator Cash said that about \$275 million was spent each year on family violence prevention programmes. How much of this is on programmes that support Indigenous families and communities?
5. In particular, how much of this is spent on Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations and programmes?
6. How many times did the Indigenous Advisory Council meet with the National Family Violence Prevention Legal Services? How many invitations were extended to the Indigenous Advisory Council that were declined?

7. Has the Chair of the Prime Minister's Indigenous Advisory Council or any of the members raised the concern of family violence to the Prime Minister or the Minister?

8. What action was taken?

9. How many programmes/services funded under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy are dedicated, in part or in full, to family violence prevention activities?

10. How many funding applications have been made under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy that are dedicated, in part or in full, to family violence prevention activities?

11. How many applications have been rejected?

**Answer:**

1. \$25 million has been committed for Indigenous specific initiatives.

2. Yes.

3. (a) The \$100 million Women's Safety Package announced on 24 September 2015 includes \$21 million for Indigenous specific activities, including:
- \$3 million\* to support Queensland police to better respond to domestic violence in remote communities;
  - \$1.4 million to maintain four Community Engagement Police Officers in the Northern Territory (NT) to assist NT police to build positive relationships and to focus their efforts on responding to domestic violence.
  - \$3.6 million to continue and expand the Cross Border Domestic Violence Intelligence Desk to support police to protect victims and hold perpetrators to account across Western Australia, NT and South Australia borders.
  - \$1.1 million to develop a targeted domestic violence module to the Australian Nurse Family Partnership Programme to support nurses to address domestic violence in their client families.
  - \$12.5 million to extend funding for four existing prisoner throughcare providers (over three years from 2016-17 to 2018-19) and expand their services to deliver rehabilitation activities to perpetrators of domestic violence to change their behaviour.

\* Funding to support Queensland police was originally \$2.5 million with an additional \$500,000 provided under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy, taking the total Women's Safety Package from \$21.1 million to \$21.6 million).

(b) The communities in which the Women's Safety Package Indigenous measures operate include:

- Support for the Queensland Police to better respond to domestic violence will be directed to the Torres Strait region. Project planning is currently underway and the list of communities that will benefit is not yet finalised.
- The four Community Engagement Police Officers (CEPOs) operate across a range of remote communities in the Northern Territory.
- The Cross Border Domestic Violence Intelligence Desk operates in the tri-border region across Western Australia (WA), the NT and South Australia (SA).

- Prisoner through care projects operate in Darwin (NT), Port Augusta (SA), Perth (WA), and Brisbane, Townsville and Murgon (Queensland).
  - The Australian Nurse Family Partnership Programme (ANFPP) currently operates in Wellington (New South Wales), North Brisbane and Cairns (Queensland), and Alice Springs, Wadeye, Maningrida, Gunbalanya and Waramanga (NT) with future rollouts to additional sites planned. The domestic violence module, when developed, will be rolled out to enhance ANFPP service delivery across the locations where they are in operation.
4. This information is not available. Family violence prevention programmes are offered to support those experiencing, or at risk of family violence, including Indigenous families and communities.
  5. This information is not available.
  6. (a) The Prime Minister's Indigenous Advisory Council (the Council) has not met with National Family Violence Prevention Legal Services (NFVPLS). Individual members of the Council may have met with NFVPLS.  
(b) NFVPLS has not extended any invitations to meet with the Council.
  7. Yes. The issue of domestic and family violence has been discussed with both the Prime Minister, the Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP and the Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion, during Council meetings.
  8. The Council provides ongoing advice to the Government on emerging policy and implementation issues relating to Indigenous Affairs. This advice informs policy development and programme delivery.
  9. Under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy's Safety and Wellbeing Programme funding is provided to support 14 family violence prevention legal services. An additional 29 activities are being funded to reduce the impact of family violence, support perpetrator behaviour change and provide support to victims.  
  
Funding is also provided for more than 120 activities to reduce the risk of alcohol abuse and violence, including over 80 alcohol and other drugs treatment services, and 36 prisoner through care and other justice activities that prevent offending and reduce reoffending.
  10. This information is not available.
  11. This information is not available.