

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: Northern Territory Stronger Communities for Children

Senator: Siewert, Rachel

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Type of question: Written

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Question:

- What are the current Northern Territory Stronger Communities for Children (SCfC) programme sites, what funding arrangements are in place for each site and when do current funding agreements expire?
- What plans are in place to evaluate the overall programme and the existing program sites?
- A number of SCfC sites were given two year funding under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy that is due to expire in June 2017. Given that the programme has been designed to run till 2021/22, what plans does the Government have in terms of continuing funding in these programme sites?
- As originally designed SCfC programmes are intended to be extended to an additional 5 Northern Territory communities starting in July 2017, is this still the plan? Have the 5 communities been identified?
- SCfC represents quite a new approach in that it provides local people with resources to fund programmes for children and families and support and expertise to make good decisions in doing this. Previously there was centralised support of this process in PM&C, but now under the IAS Government coordination has devolved to a number of regional centres. How is the Department ensuring that the core programme principles are not being lost in this process and that the programme is being applied in a consistent/ coordinated way? What training have regional office staff been given in order to support this new approach?

Answer:

1. Refer to the table below.

Organisation	Community	Total Funding	Duration in Years	Funding End Date
Quality Services Support Panel:				
Ninti One Menzies School of Health Research	All	\$3,200,000	5.5	30/12/2017
Facilitating Partners:				
Australian Red Cross	Galiwinku	\$3,267,479	4.5	30/12/2017
Malabam Health Board Corporation	Maningrida	\$1,365,771	2	30/06/2017
Adjumarllarl Aboriginal Corporation	Gunbalanya	\$1,036,521	2	30/06/2017
Katherine Regional Aboriginal Health & Related Services Inc	Ngukurr	\$3,267,479	4.5	30/12/2017
Palngun Wurnangat Association	Wadeye	\$3,582,998	5	30/06/2018
Life Without Barriers	Lajamanu	\$871,895	2	30/06/2017
Tjuwanpa Outstation Resource Aboriginal Corporation	Ntaria	\$2,682,998	5	30/06/2018
Atyenhenge-Atherre Aboriginal Corporation	Santa Teresa	\$2,682,998	5	30/06/2018
Tangentyere Council	Utopia Homelands	\$1,036,521	2	30/06/2017
Jesuit Social Services	Atitjere, Engawala, Bonya	\$871,895	2	30/06/2017
Total funding (SACS and GST excl.)		\$23,866,555		

2. The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) has commenced an external evaluation of the SCfC Programme with a final report due back to PM&C in June 2017. The evaluation will assess the implementation of the SCfC Programme across its 10 sites over the period 2013-2016, and examine the availability of early signs of progress towards SCfC outcomes.

3. The results of individual service performance reports and the evaluation will inform consideration of future arrangements for these services.

4. The evaluation will inform considerations of any future sites.

5. No.

6. PM&C funds Ninti One to provide implementation support across the 10 communities. Ninti One facilitates SCfC Knowledge Sharing Workshops twice a year and PM&C Regional Network staff attend these Workshops along with the Facilitating Partner organisations and Local Community Board Members. PM&C National Office monitors issues and provide policy oversight for the programme.

7. PM&C Regional Network staff participate in teleconferences with Ninti One on a regional basis and are invited to attend the twice yearly SCfC Knowledge Sharing Workshops.