

**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:** Closing the Gap

**Senator:** Siewert, Rachel

**Question reference number:** 212

**Type of question:** Written

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

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Why is the Government still not considering national Justice Targets as part of Closing the Gap?

**Answer:**

The existing Closing the Gap targets were negotiated between the Commonwealth and the states and territories. These targets are not Commonwealth targets, they are COAG targets. Any new targets, including a national justice target, would need to be agreed by the Commonwealth, states and territories.

The Commonwealth notes that several jurisdictions have already introduced justice targets. Where states and territories commit to justice targets, the Commonwealth will work collaboratively to identify practical actions that will help achieve the targets.