

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO**

Program: Australian Human Rights Commission

Question No. AE17/096

Senator Di Natale asked the following question at the hearing on 28 February 2017:

1. How is the Racism: It Stops With Me campaign funded (e.g. out of existing AHRC funds, or with a specific package of funding)?
2. What is the forecast funding allocation for the coming budget year for the Racism: It Stops With Me campaign?
3. How many staff has the funding for the Racism: It Stops With Me campaign allowed for?
4. What events and campaigns has the funding allowed for as part of the Racism Stops with Me Campaign?
5. What kind of data is collected through the Racism: It Stops With Me campaign, if any?
6. Is there any evaluation process to determine the effectiveness of the Racism: It Stops With Me campaign?
7. How many meetings of the National Anti-Racism Strategy have taken place?
8. Is there any evaluation process to determine the effectiveness of the National Anti-Racism Strategy?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

1. The Commission has \$90,000 in 2016-17 out of its existing funds to deliver the National Anti-Racism Strategy. The Commission has also received an additional \$50,000 from the Department of Social Services to develop community service announcements for *Racism. It Stops with Me*.
2. The 2017-18 allocation of resources and staffing will be done through the Commission's regular budget allocation process. It is likely to be a similar amount to 2016-17.
3. There is no specific allocated funding for staffing the Racism. It Stops with Me campaign. Staff are funded through the Commission's regular budget. Currently, the Secretariat is staffed by a Project Officer (APS 6) 3.5 days per week. The Manager, Education and Innovation (EL2) and the Executive and Research Assistant (APS3/4) to the Race Discrimination Commissioner also support the work of the Strategy. The Manager, Education and Innovation, maintains oversight of the Strategy.
4. The funding allows for limited secretariat support for the 355 organisations that are currently involved in supporting the campaign. Organisations come from a range of sectors including government, business, health, education and sports.

The AHRC had received \$50,000 from the Department of Social Services for the production and promotion of a 'Racism. It Stops with Me' community services announcement. This will be produced during the 2016-17 financial year.

The Secretariat is consulting with key stakeholders in the education sector on the development of a project to create professional development resources for pre-service teachers. These will help teachers meet their professional obligations to promote cultural diversity and addressing racism. These resources will be consistent with Australian Professional Standards for Teachers. This project is being implemented throughout 2017.

5. See question 8
6. See question 8
7. The National Anti-Racism Strategy Partnership has met 20 times since 2011. Currently the partnership meets twice per year.
8. The Commission conducts evaluation activities within a learning and improvement framework, to understand what and how we are contributing towards our purpose. We implement a monitoring and evaluation framework that is aligned with our Corporate Plan. It helps us to answer the questions:
 - How much do we do?
 - How well did we do?
 - What difference did we make?
 - Who benefits and why?

In 2015, the Commission completed an evaluation of the Strategy, including *Racism. It Stops with Me* and its future direction. An external evaluator conducted this evaluation. The summary report is available at <https://www.humanrights.gov.au/our-work/race-discrimination/publications/national-anti-racism-strategy-and-racism-it-stops-me>

Since then, we have conducted an annual internally led online supporter survey and analysis of web analytics to assess supporter satisfaction and the impact of the *Racism. It Stops with Me* campaign on supporter capacity, reach and influence on broader audiences.