

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

Group: 2

Program: 1.3

Question: BE14/093

Senator Singh asked the following question at the hearing on 26-29 May 2014:

1. The Government is ceasing the Commonwealth Human Rights Education Programme from 1 July 2014. Can you describe the initiatives currently funded by this programme?
2. Has any of the funding earmarked for savings already been allocated?
3. Have applications already opened for grants through this programme for the next financial year?
4. What will the Government do to provide human rights education opportunities given that this programme is being abolished and the Australian Human Rights Commission is losing funding?

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

1. The Human Rights Framework – Education Grants programme has provided grants to community organisations to undertake human rights education projects. The programme has also supported three Australian Law Reform Commission inquiries during the 2013-2014 financial year: equal recognition before the law and legal capacity for people with disability; serious invasions of privacy in the digital era; and review of the *Native Title Act 1993*.
2. No.
3. No.
4. As stated in Budget Paper No. 2, the reduction relates to the Human Rights Education Grants programme, which was administered by the Attorney-General's Department. The funds of the Australian Human Rights Commission with regard to education have not been affected by the measure.