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

Group: 3

Program: 1.7

Question No. BE15/091

Senator Collins asked the following written question from the 27 and 28 May 2015 hearing:

- 1. When is the Government going to release the second round of funding for the Safer Streets Program?
- 2. Round one of the Safer Streets Program targeted organisations which were identified before October 2013. Only organisations previously identified and invited where eligible to apply for funding under round one.
- 3. Will the Government use the same 'identify and invite' process for funding under round two of the Safer Streets Program?
- 4. How much will the second round of funding be in total?
- 5. Will there be a third round and when will the Government release these details?
- 6. The first round of funding only included security related infrastructure programs, excluding community based youth outreach and mentoring programs.
- 7. Why has all the money been directed towards CCTV?
- 8. Have community groups, councils and non-governmental organisations been consulted in the government's decision to redirect all the money to CCTV?
- 9. If so what was their response?
- 10. Will various community based projects be excluded from funding under round two of the Safer Streets Program?
- 11. In relation to the decision to exclude community organisations as beneficiaries of proceeds of crime what role did Prime Minister and Cabinet play?
- 12. How will CCTV cameras assist project workers and outreach workers to deal with anti-social behaviours and substance abusers.
- 13. What social and material support will CCTV provide for youth at risk of committing crime?
- 14. Has the government taken into consideration that CCTV cameras will cause crime displacement.
- 15. If so what precautions will the government take to combat crime displacement?

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

- 1. The timing of a second funding round is a matter for Government.
- 2. This is not a question.
- 3. This is a matter for Government.
- 4. There is \$29 million available for future funding under the Safer Streets Programme.
- 5. The structure and timing of funding rounds is a matter for Government.
- 6. This is not a question.
- 7. The allocation of funding to projects including CCTV reflects the Coalition's *Plan for Safer Streets* as set out in the *Policy to Tackle Crime*.
- 8. Please see the response to question 7.
- 9. A number of organisations wrote to the Minister/Department expressing their views. All organisations were encouraged to remain apprised of future funding opportunities through the Department's website.
- 10. The scope of round two is a matter for Government.

- 11. Community organisations have not been excluded from receiving proceeds of crime funding. For example; Gladstone PCYC, Blackwater Rotary Club and Blue Mountains Cricket Association all received funding under the Safer Streets Programme.
- 12. The use of CCTV is a crime prevention measure to assist in the reduction of anti-social behaviour and other crime, and the identification and apprehension of offenders.
- 13. The use of CCTV will deter and prevent crime.
- 14. The Department evaluates the effectiveness of projects and programmes based on reports submitted by grantees.
- 15. Please see the response to question 14.