

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

Output 1.7

Question No. 37

Senator Evans asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2007:

- a) Please provide a breakdown of funding provided for litigation and mediation since 1 July 2005.
- b) Please identify the type of Indigenous or non-Indigenous parties that are funded.

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

a) In the period 1 July 2005 to 14 June 2007, the total funding provided for litigation under the Native Title Respondent Funding Scheme was \$1.363m and the total funding provided for mediation was \$8.656m.

The total number of matters with funding approved in this period was 1012.

The breakdown in the number of matters funded for mediation and for litigation is as follows:

- 35 matters were funded for litigation representing 3.5% of the total number of funded matters
 - 977 matters were funded for mediation representing 96.5% of the total number of funded matters
- b) The types of Indigenous parties that are funded are individuals or groups who are seeking to protect a property right under a native title claim but who are not seeking to assert native title in relation to that claim.

The types of non-Indigenous parties that are funded include individual farmers, pastoralists, miners, fishers and local councils and also the various peak bodies which represent each of those groups.