



## Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee Supplementary Budget Estimates 2024–25 Friday, 8 November 2024

Daily summary of proceedings.

The committee met from 9.00am until 5.02pm.

The committee called the following departments and agencies:

- National Indigenous Australians Agency
- Attorney-General's Department
- Department of Education
- Department of Health and Aged Care
- Department of Social Services
- Anindilyakwa Land Council
- Central Land Council
- Northern Land Council
- Tiwi Land Council
- Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations
- Aboriginal Hostels Limited
- Aboriginal Investment NT

The committee released the following agencies from the hearing:

- Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation
- Outback Store Pty Ltd
- Indigenous Business Australia
- Office of Township Leasing
- Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Topics discussed by the committee included:

Cross Portfolio / National Indigenous Australians Agency;

- National justice reinvestment unit progress, expenditure and implementation;
- Progress on actioning recommendations from the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody and Bringing Them Home report;
- Prescribed Body Corporate project funding, economic management and delivery;
- Governance and federal government funding of KWY Aboriginal Corporation and related ORIC investigation;
- National Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency (NAAJA) senior executive turnover and audits;
- Pregnancy care for imprisoned women and collection of data about the incidence of stillbirths and miscarriages among imprisoned First Nations women ;
- Excessive use of restraints on imprisoned First Nations women during childbirth;
- Yadu Health Aboriginal Corporation governance;
- Funding for SNAIC;
- Funding and evaluation of Australian Indigenous Education Foundation Scholarship program;
- Funding and evaluation of English Language Learning for Indigenous Children program;
- Development of First Nations Teachers Strategy Centre;

- Turnover rate for First Nations staff within the Attorney-General's Department;
- Expenditure on indigenous specific consulting services, specifically PwC Indigenous Consulting;
- First Nations Digital Inclusion;
- Custody Notification Scheme (CNF) funding for Queensland and Tasmania;
- University of Adelaide report on the removal of the cashless debit card;
- Progress and expenditure on establishing Makarata Commission;
- Legal advice sought by the federal government in regard to treaties and treaty processes underway in States and Territories;
- Grant payments to National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Association (NATSIHA) and Housing Policy Partnership;
- Remote jobs and economic development program;
- Involvement of religious organisations (Anglicare and Catholic Care) in remote jobs program delivery;
- Better Safer Future for Central Australia expenditure;
- ANAO audits of indigenous agencies;
- Indigenous specific mental health funding as related to CTG target 14: Significant and sustained reduction in suicide of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people towards zero; and
- Governance of Anindilyakwa Land Council.

Anindilyakwa Land Council, Central Land Council, Northern Land Council, Tiwi Land Council

- Investigation of potential fraud matters in the NLC;
- Appointment of a new NLC Chief Executive Officer;
- Central Land Council staffing and governance;
- Administration of the COVID-19 stimulus grants; and
- Conflicts of interest declarations and related policies.

Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations

- Processes for investigating and dismissing directors of indigenous corporations; and
- Breaches of the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006*.

Aboriginal Hostels Limited

- Number of beds available across hostels located in Alice Springs.

Northern Territory Aboriginal Investment Corporation

- Provision of strategic plan; and
- Staff recruitment and retention.