Senate Community Affairs Committee ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

2012-13 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 2 Question No: 92

Topic: Community Housing

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Senator Payne asked:

With reference to Supplementary Estimates QoN 497, can you tell the Committee what the consultation process was for the development of the National Industry Development Framework for Community Housing? Also, what did the preceding consultation involve? What will the proposed consultation involve? Is it ongoing, is it selective or is it made broadly across the sector?

Answer:

The National Industry Development Framework for community housing (NIDF) has been undertaken by Housing NSW. New South Wales has been the lead jurisdiction for work on the National Regulatory System (NRS) and NIDF. The NIDF is intended to provide an overarching framework for jurisdictions to develop into their own approach to developing industry capacity, recognising each jurisdictions different starting points.

Initial consultations for development of the NIDF were a part of broader national consultations on the National Regulatory System for community housing in late 2011 and early 2012.

A draft of the NIDF was provided to the NRS National Consultative Forum, on 22 October 2012. The forum includes community housing providers, industry peak bodies and finance sector representatives from across Australia. Feedback from stakeholders raised concerns regarding the lack of commitment by jurisdictions on implementation, accountability and key policy and funding levers as well as requesting changes to sections on workforce development and Indigenous community housing organisations.