

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: 3

Question No: 102

Topic: Problem Gambling

Hansard Page: 14/02/2013 CA42

Senator Cash asked:

In relation to the multilateral and bilateral conversations that have occurred with states and territories, can you provide the dates when those conversations occurred?

Answer:

The Department held multilateral and bilateral discussions with state and territory government departmental officials following the introduction of the national gambling reform legislation on 1 November 2012.

Within the first week of November 2012, the Department contacted all state and territory government officials separately to inform officials of the introduction of the legislation and discuss its implications in the event of its passage.

On 21 November 2012 a multilateral teleconference was also held with state and territory government officials. Invitations were extended to all jurisdictions. However, the New South Wales Government declined and the Northern Territory Government did not participate. Multilateral conversations have continued through Gambling Research Australia's meetings, which were held in late 2012 and February 2013.

Following the passage of the legislation on 29 November, the Department has also continued to engage state and territory governments bilaterally. In particular in late 2012 and early 2013, the Department formally engaged with officials from South Australia, Australian Capital Territory, Queensland and Victoria to consider issues specific to their jurisdiction.

The Department is currently arranging meetings with officials from Western Australia and South Australia before the end of March 2013, followed by Tasmania and the Northern Territory.