

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet
Topic: Inter-departmental communication

Senator: McAllister, Jenny

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Type of question: Written

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Number of pages: 2

Question:

- 1) How does the Cities Division manage communication with other related departments like for example Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development?
- 2) Are there regular meetings between departments to discuss advancing cities policy? Which departments specifically are involved?

Answer:

A Deputy Secretary-level Steering Group assists with high-level coordination and oversight. The group met in February 2017 and four times during 2016. Departments invited to the February 2017 meeting were:

- Department of Agriculture and Water Resources
- Attorney General's Department
- AusTrade
- Department of Communications and the Arts
- Department of Defence
- Department of Education and Training
- Department of Employment
- Department of the Environment and Energy
- Department of Finance
- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Department of Health
- Department of Immigration and Border Protection
- Department of Industry, Innovation and Science
- Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development
- Department of Social Services
- The Treasury

Outside of these meetings, engagement and consultation with other agencies occurs on an ongoing basis and at a range of levels. In particular, officials have regular meetings with their counterparts in the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development. Coordination also occurs through Cabinet processes.