

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 2: Indigenous
Topic: Renegotiation of Closing the Gap Targets

Senator: Dodson, Patrick

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Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 13 April 2017

Number of pages: 1

Question:

1. Can we have an update on the process and timeline for negotiating any revisions to the Closing the Gap targets?
2. What targets are being renegotiated?
3. What process will be followed with COAG to renegotiate these targets?
4. Is there consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander providers in renegotiating those targets?
5. Will justice targets for imprisonment rates and violence rates be included in any revised targets as called for by the Change the Record Coalition and other organisations?

Answer:

1. The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) agreed Governments will work together and with Indigenous leaders, organisations and communities to consider an approach to refreshing the Closing the Gap agenda. COAG's timelines are a matter for COAG, however, work will be progressed over 2017.
2. This is a matter for COAG.
3. The normal COAG process will be followed in that officials from relevant portfolios in each jurisdiction will work together to provide advice to COAG.
4. All Governments have agreed to work with Indigenous leaders, organisations and communities to make sure the refreshed Closing the Gap agenda reflects their needs and aspirations for the future.
5. This is a matter for COAG which is likely to consider this through the process outlined in answer one.