

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: Social Security Legislation Amendment (Community Development Program) Bill 2015

Senator: Dodson, Patrick

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Type of question: FPA Friday 3 March 2017, page 22

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

Number of pages: 5

Question:

Senator DODSON: Are you still committed to the Social Security Legislation Amendment (Community Development Program) Bill 2015?

Senator Scullion: Broadly, we are. As you would be aware, this is a matter of negotiation through government and across parliament to ensure that we land on the right space. Yes, we certainly are committed to the improvements that that process can bring.

Senator DODSON: Can you provide an outline of what further consultations have taken place since the introduction of the bill?

Ms Williams: There was quite significant consultation as part of the introduction of the bill and following the introduction of the bill. Over the last couple of months, we have continued to undertake discussions, particularly with current CDP providers and those Aboriginal organisations that have a particular interest in being involved in the design and the delivery of any new model.

Senator DODSON: Is it possible to get a list of those consulted post lodgement of the bill?

Ms Williams: Yes, certainly. I can provide you with that.

Senator DODSON: Minister, can you outline any proposed changes that may be contemplated in the bill; that is, changes to what you have actually got?

Senator Scullion: Yes. I just want to be absolutely sure that I am talking about the same legislation. I will check on that.

Answer:

Since the introduction of the Social Security Legislation Amendment (Community Development Programme) Bill in late 2015, both the Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion, and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) have undertaken further consultation with a range of stakeholders. PM&C has released detailed information and has held discussions through meetings, forums and a public consultation process including in a number of remote communities.

The Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion, continues to consult with members of the Opposition on reforms to the Community Development Programme.

Full list of consulted parties post lodgement of the Bill is at [Attachment A](#).

Any changes to the proposed Bill would be informed by further consultations with stakeholders.

Attachment A

Consulted Parties post-introduction of the bill in December 2015

The following parties responded to a consultation paper seeking feedback from stakeholders on the reforms:

- Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS)
- Alawa Aboriginal Corporation
- Bynoe Community Advancement Cooperative
- Central Desert Regional Council
- Commonwealth Ombudsman
- Complete Personnel Group
- My Pathway
- Ms Lisa Fowkes (Australian National University, Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy and Research)
- Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation
- Jobs Australia
- Kimberley Alliance K3 made up of:
 - Kullarri Regional Communities Incorporated (KRCI)
 - Marra Worra Worra Aboriginal Corporation
 - Winun Ngari Aboriginal Corporation
- Kullarri Regional Communities Incorporated
- Miwatj Employment and Participation
- National Employment Services Association
- New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council
- National Welfare Rights Network
- Dr Shelly Bielefeld (Australian National University, College of Asia and the Pacific)
- Roper Gulf Regional Council

PM&C has also engaged with the National Employment Services Association (NESA) Special Interest Group (SIG) meeting. PM&C attended NESA SIG meetings on 13 April 2016, 27 October 2016 and 21 March 2017. This forum is made up of:

- Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation (ALPA)
- Roper Gulf Regional Council
- Campbell Page
- Bawinanga
- Rise/Jobfind
- My Pathway
- Skill Hire
- Max Employment

- Miwatj Employment and Participation
- Catholic Care
- Cape York Employment (CYE)
- Groote Eylandt Bickerton Island Enterprises Aboriginal Corporation (GEBIE)
- Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise Corporation Ltd (MPREC)

PM&C held community consultation sessions in:

- the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands (Amata and Mimili)
- Western NSW (Bourke, Cobar and Wilcannia)
- The Northern Territory (Lajamanu and Kalkarindji)

PM&C has held regular consults with CDP providers through the Provider Business Meetings, which all providers are invited to attend. Provider Business Meetings took place on 16-17 Feb 2016 and 15-16 November 2016.

PM&C has held regular consults with the CDP Advisory Forum, specifically on the design of the reforms. Meetings took place on the 28-29 April 2016 and 17 November 2016. This meeting consists of representatives from:

- Miwatj Employment and Participation
- Skill Hire
- Kullarri Regional Communities Incorporated
- Winun Ngari Aboriginal Corporation
- Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise Corporation Ltd
- Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation
- Marra Worra Worra Aboriginal Corporation
 - Bynoe Community Advancement Cooperative
 - Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation

The Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion has written to the following stakeholders:

- Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation
- Bynoe Community Advancement Cooperative
- Central Land Council
- Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation
- Kullarri Regional Communities Incorporated
- Marra Worra Woorra Aboriginal Corporation
- Mitwaj Employment
- Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise Corporation Ltd (MPREC)
- National Employment Services Association (NESA)
- Northern Land Council
- Rainbow Gateway Limited
- Skill Hire

- Winun Ngari Aboriginal Corporation

The Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion has met with a range of other interested stakeholders to discuss feedback on the proposed reforms.

The Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion discussions with members of the Opposition, including:

- The Hon Warren Snowdon MP and Senator Patrick Dodson