Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates Hearing 25-29 May 2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 2: Indigenous
Topic: Indigenous Advancement Strategy

Senator: Senator the Hon Jan McLucas
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Number of pages: 2

Questions:

In respect of organisations that did not apply under the IAS, the department has indicated that there is a separate process for filling a service gap.
a.   What is this process?
b.   How does it differ from the gap fill process within the context of the funding round?
c.   How does it differ from the demand driven process?
d.   How are service gaps being identified where the department has not received an application for funding?
e.   Is this an ongoing funding process in addition to the competitive, gap fill and demand driven processes?
f.   How will these organisations be funded? Will they be funded from the IAS?
g.   Have any organisations been funded under this process to date?

Answer:

a. For the purposes of the grant funding round the Department has finalised the gap filling exercise. During this gap process, when a service gap was identified and the service provider did not apply this was considered outside the round. The Department anticipates needs and opportunities will emerge in the future. These will be addressed using the options available under the IAS guidelines.

b. The gap fill process under the grant round was restricted to organisations that had applied under the grant round. Any service needs outside of this process will be additional using options available under the grant guidelines.

c. Applications for demand driven activities can occur at any time.

d. If this is identified as the case the Department will need to take action to address using the IAS guidelines.

e. The grant funding round is completed. However needs and gaps will continue to emerge in the future and will be addressed by the Department.

f. Funding will be considered under the IAS, provided what is being applied for meets the IAS guidelines.

g. Organisations have continued to be funded under the IAS since the strategy commenced on 1 July 2014.