

# Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

## ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

### SENATE ESTIMATES SESSION

Supplementary Budget Estimates 18-22 November 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Topic:** Petrol sniffing

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Jan McLucas

**Question reference number:** 321

**Type of Question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 17 January 2014

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

How is the Government progressing the Petrol Sniffing Strategy to 2015-16? Is the \$115.86 million over 5 years (2011-12 to 2015-16) still being used to support the strategy and the rollout of low aromatic fuel?

**Answer:**

The \$115.86 million over five years is to support the Petrol Sniffing Prevention Programme (PSPP) which is a component of the Petrol Sniffing Strategy (PSS). The PSPP funding supports the rollout of low aromatic fuel throughout regional and remote Australia. This includes:

- subsidising the production and distribution of low aromatic fuel to ensure it can be sold to fuel retailers and consumers at a price equivalent to regular unleaded petrol;
- the establishment of bulk storage facilities to support an expanded rollout to northern Australia;
- informing the public about low aromatic fuel and petrol sniffing prevention through communication and education strategies; and
- collecting data on the prevalence of petrol sniffing.

Due to an increase in the 2013-14 budget to support the establishment of the bulk storage facility in Darwin and, in turn, the expanded rollout of low aromatic fuel in northern Australia, the five-year administered funding commitment for the PSPP is now \$118.30 million over five years (2011-12 to 2015-16).

The PSS is also supported by funding for youth diversion projects under the Targeted Funding Scheme. In 2013-14 up to \$1.70 million has been budgeted for these activities.

In addition, the Indigenous Justice Programme supports the PSS by funding diversion activities to reduce petrol sniffing. In 2013-14 up to \$2.81 million has been budgeted for these activities.