

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government

Supplementary Budget Estimates 17-20 October 2011

Question: 96

Topic: Constitutional Recognition of Local Government - Expert Panel

Asked By: Senator JOYCE

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 December 2011

Number of pages: 1

- a) What is the cost of the Expert Panel?
- b) Where will this funding come from?
- c) How does this funding compare with that of the Expert Panel on constitutional recognition of Indigenous people?

Answer:

a) & b)

A budget of around \$3 million in 2011-12 has been made available to the Expert Panel on Constitutional Recognition of Local Government.

- c) In the 2011-12 Budget Statement by the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs on Investing to Close the Gap between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Australians, the cost of the Expert Panel on Constitutional Recognition of Indigenous Australians was identified as \$11.2 million over two years from 2010-11 to 2011-12.