

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(287) Output 3.1: Whole-of-government coordination of policy development and service delivery for Indigenous Australians

Senator Evans asked:

Has the Ngaanyatjarra Strategic Investment Plan been developed and implemented?

Answer:

The Ngaanyatjarra Strategic Investment Plan has not yet been developed although a clear timeframe for the development of the Plan has been agreed by the parties. A project plan was outlined what needs to happen was attached to and forms part of the RPA. That plan provides for the following:

Task	Timeframe
Develop and agree to a process to establish and articulate a 20 to 30 year vision and present to the RPC;	1 November 2005
Map investment in the Ngaanyatjarra region by Governments and the Ngaanyatjarra people;	1 March 2006
Work with communities to develop a long term vision for the future of the Ngaanyatjarra Communities and the Ngaanyatjarra region;	1 July 2006
Agree on pathways to achieving that vision;	1 November 2006
Develop a Regional Action Plan	1 December 2006

This project is being monitored by the Regional Partnership Committee, established under the RPA and which meets quarterly to oversee implementation of the RPA and subsequent agreements and monitor how the parties are working together.

The Agreement Coordinators Group has discussed the implementation of this project. Work is underway at the moment on the mapping of investment by Government and the Ngaanyatjarra Council. In addition the Australian Government has engaged a consulting group to assist in mapping programmes and identifying red tape and work on that project has also commenced. The parties have agreed that the mapping exercise is critical and a detailed process for developing the Strategic Action Plan will be done once the initial information is provided. The Agreement Coordinators Group are meeting regularly to progress this and the other projects in cooperation.