

Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

FAMILIES, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

Northern Territory National Emergency Response Bill 2007 and Related Bills

10 August 2007

Topic: Advertising & communication costs

Question No: 5

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Ludwig asked:

Is there any money in any portfolio for any advertising or communications campaign? If so, how much and under which portfolio?

Answer:

For FaCSIA the current bills contain the following funding for communication and education activities and initiatives:

\$2m for education and communication activities and signage in relation to the legislation changes involving alcohol, drugs and pornography.

\$2m for education and communication activities in relation to the land and permit changes.

\$400,000 across a range of other measures, including general messages.

Other agencies may have funding for education and communication activities for measures they are specifically responsible for.

Existing resources are being used to support communication and education initiatives and activities for the emergency response.

A number of organisations have suggested the need for an information campaign on various measures, which the Government is open to considering.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

FAMILIES, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

Northern Territory National Emergency Response Bill 2007 and Related Bills

10 August 2007

Topic: NTER Intervention

Question No: 28

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Ludwig asked: Do you have any benchmarks for the Intervention's success? If so what are they and what are the timeframes for achieving them?

Answer:

FaCSIA is currently designing an evaluation approach for the NTER. The development of benchmarks and indicators will form part of the evaluation framework.

It is important to recognise that the first phase is stabilisation and in the absence of a permanent police presence before now in many of the affected communities, the existing indicators on such things as reported offences and other measures of community safety may be understated.

Further, for other indicators such as school attendance, there will be intermediate and longer term impacts, reflecting the staged approach to both the stabilisation and normalisation phases and to particular components such as welfare reform.

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Northern Territory National Emergency Response Bill 2007 and Related Bills

10 August 2007

Topic: Northern Territory Emergency Response Intervention (NTER) Question No: 29

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Ludwig asked: Have you considered whether a weekly or monthly report on outcomes will be produced and made public? Do you intend to have any independent assessment of the program?

Answer:

FaCSIA is currently designing an evaluation framework for the NTER having regard to the staged implementation of a number of measures in the stabilisation phase and subsequent normalisation phase.

Monitoring and reporting will form a part of the evaluation approach. Evaluation of outcomes cannot commence until the measures have been fully implemented and in place for some time.

FaCSIA supports transparent and independent evaluations of all whole of government interventions. The NTER is no exception.

It is a matter for government whether the monitoring reports will be made public