

## Estimates Committee 2009 Questions Taken On Notice

( 16/6/2009 to 19/6/2009 )

Date: 18/06/2009 Output: Dept Chief Min  
Sub Output: 1.2 - Indigenous Policy

Subject: Federal funding - conditions attached to use

**From:** Ms Marion Scrymgour to Hon Alison Anderson  
Indigenous Policy

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**Question:** **8-25**  
If you want to take some of this on notice, I will just go through it.

How much of the \$160m will be invested, and what is the full amount for the five year period?

Is that amount of more than \$160m all of federal government money, and if not, then what percentage or portion of it is federal government money?

Was it a condition of the federal government providing the funding to the Northern Territory government that none of the money be spent on housing or infrastructure on homelands or outstations?

Was it a condition of the federal government providing the funding to the Northern Territory government that the money be concentrated on particular growth towns which had been agreed to by the Commonwealth?

Is there a document in existence setting out the terms of the agreement between the federal government and the Northern Territory government? If there is such a document, is it signed, and if so, when was it signed and by whom?

If there is no signed document recording the agreement between the federal government and the Northern Territory government regarding the more than \$160m, when was the relative agreement made, by whom, and on what conditions, and is the more than \$160m to be distributed between the 20 Territory growth towns, and if so, on what basis and according to what criteria?

Will the Northern Territory government be deducting an administration fee from the more than \$160m amount? If so, at what percentage rate, and how much of the more than \$160m amount will be spent in the 2009-10 financial year?

...

Minister, what will be the establishment and recurrent costs respectively for the one stop shops that have been outlined under the working futures

and will that money come out of the more than \$160m amount? What is the difference, if any, between the role of the person running a one-stop-shop and that of a government business manager under the federal government's intervention? What will be the establishment and the recurrent cost, respectively, for the Territory Coordinator-General for Indigenous Services? I would like to acknowledge Mr Bob Beadman who is in the room, minister.

Members: hear, hear.

Ms SCRYMGOUR: I would like to know what the establishment and recurrent cost respectively for Mr Beadman's position which is Territory Coordinator-General for Indigenous Services, and what the cost is going to be for his associated bureaucracy and will that money come out of the more than \$160m amount?

**Answer:**

Answered On:

Answer:

(i) The National Partnership Agreement on Remote Service Delivery provides \$160.5 million to the Northern Territory to help ensure that \$1.5 billion of planned investments, and other new investments, are implemented effectively. The Agreement commenced in January 2009 and will expire on 30 June 2014.

# **ESTIMATES COMMITTEE**

## **Question Taken on Notice**

**Date:** 18 June 2009 **Output:** 1.2

**Subject:** A Working Future

**From:** Member for Arafura

**To:** Minister for Indigenous Policy

**Department:** Department of the Chief Minister

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**Number:** 8.25 (i)

**Question:**

**How much of the \$160m will be invested, and what is the full amount for the five year period?**

**Answer:**

The National Partnership Agreement on Remote Service Delivery provides \$160.5 million to the Northern Territory to help ensure that \$1.5 billion of planned investments, and other new investments, are implemented effectively. The Agreement commenced in January 2009 and will expire on 30 June 2014.

# ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

## Question Taken on Notice

**Date:** 18 June 2009 **Output:** 1.2

**Subject:** A Working Future

**From:** Member for Arafura

**To:** Minister for Indigenous Policy

**Department:** Department of the Chief Minister

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**Number:** 8.25 (ii)

**Question:**

**Is that amount of more than \$160m all of Federal Government money, and if not, then what percentage or portion of it is Federal Government money?**

**Answer:**

The amount comprises \$107.4 million (67%) in Commonwealth Government funding and \$53.1 million (33%) in Northern Territory Government funding.

# ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

## Question Taken on Notice

**Date:** 18 June 2009 **Output:** 1.2  
**Subject:** A Working Future  
**From:** Member for Arafura  
**To:** Minister for Indigenous Policy  
**Department:** Department of the Chief Minister

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**Number:** 8.25 (iii)

**Was it a condition of the Federal Government providing the funding to the Northern Territory Government that none of the money be spent on housing or infrastructure on homelands or outstations?**

**Answer:**

The National Partnership Agreement on Remote Service Delivery does not apply to infrastructure on homelands or outstations. Commonwealth funding for remote housing is provided through a separate National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing.

The following are funded outputs under the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Service Delivery:

- Joined up government arrangements, including a high level coordination mechanism, jointly staffed Regional Operations Centres, and at the local level a Single Government Interface through which governments will interact with communities and Australian and State/Territory Government agencies.
- A community baseline profile for each community consisting of government service information, demographic projects and identifying service and infrastructure gaps.
- Local Implementation Plans for each location to be developed in consultation with community residents to guide government investment and program / service delivery response.
- Strengthening Indigenous governance and community engagement – programs to be appropriate to local need.
- Changes to land tenure and administration to enable development of residential and commercial properties and service hubs.
- Increased use of interpreters.
- Cultural awareness training for government employees.

# **ESTIMATES COMMITTEE**

## **Question Taken on Notice**

**Date:** 18 June 2009 **Output:** 1.2

**Subject:** A Working Future

**From:** Member for Arafura

**To:** Minister for Indigenous Policy

**Department:** Department of the Chief Minister

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**Number:** 8.25 (iv)

**Question:**

**Was it a condition of the Federal Government providing the funding to the Northern Territory Government that the money be concentrated on particular growth towns which had been agreed to by the Commonwealth?**

**Answer:**

The locations for the delivery of the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Service Delivery were jointly agreed by the Territory and Commonwealth Governments. The agreed sites are the 15 larger major works communities that will receive significant housing and infrastructure investment under the Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program. The remote service delivery communities are consistent with the 20 selected as Territory Growth Towns.

# ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

## Question Taken on Notice

**Date:** 18 June 2009 **Output:** 1.2  
**Subject:** A Working Future  
**From:** Member for Arafura  
**To:** Minister for Indigenous Policy  
**Department:** Department of the Chief Minister

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**Number:** 8.25 (v)

**Question:**

**Is there a document in existence setting out the terms of the agreement between the Federal Government and the Northern Territory Government? If there is such a document, is it signed, and if so, when was it signed and by whom?**

**Answer:**

Yes. The National Partnership Agreement on Remote Service Delivery which can be downloaded from the website:

[http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov\\_agreements/federal\\_financial\\_relations/index.cfm](http://www.coag.gov.au/intergov_agreements/federal_financial_relations/index.cfm)

The National Partnership Agreement was developed by the national Optimising Service Delivery Sub-Group of the COAG Working Group on Indigenous Reform throughout 2008. The Sub Group was chaired by the Northern Territory.

The National Partnership Agreement was signed by the Chief Minister and Premiers of New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia and South Australia in December 2008 and by the Prime Minister in January 2009.

# **ESTIMATES COMMITTEE**

## **Question Taken on Notice**

**Date:** 18 June 2009 **Output:** 1.2  
**Subject:** A Working Future  
**From:** Member for Arafura  
**To:** Minister for Indigenous Policy  
**Department:** Department of the Chief Minister

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**Number:** 8.25 (vi)

**Question:**

**If there is no signed document recording the agreement between the Federal Government and the Northern Territory Government regarding the more than \$160m, when was the relative agreement made, by whom, and on what conditions, and is the more than \$160m to be distributed between the 20 Territory Growth Towns, and if so, on what basis and according to what criteria?**

**Answer:**

See response to question 8.25(v) above.



# **ESTIMATES COMMITTEE**

## **Question Taken on Notice**

**Date:** 18 June 2009 **Output:** 1.2  
**Subject:** A Working Future  
**From:** Member for Arafura  
**To:** Minister for Indigenous Policy  
**Department:** Department of the Chief Minister

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**Number:** 8.25 (vii)

**Question:**

**Will the Northern Territory Government be deducting an administration fee from the more than \$160m amount? If so, at what percentage rate, and how much of the more than \$160m amount will be spent in the 2009-10 financial year?**

**Answer:**

No.

Commonwealth and Territory funding of \$29.1 million has been budgeted for expenditure under the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Service Delivery in 2009-10.

# ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

## Question Taken on Notice

**Date:** 18 June 2009 **Output:** 1.2  
**Subject:** A Working Future  
**From:** Member for Arafura  
**To:** Minister for Indigenous Policy  
**Department:** Department of the Chief Minister

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**Number:** 8.25 (viii)

**Question:**

How much of the \$300m *Closing the Gap* money is to be spent in the 2009-10 financial year? Is any of the 2009-10 financial year *Closing the Gap* money to be spent on the *Working Futures* policy projects or program? If so, how much in total, and according to what breakdown between projects and programs?

**Answer:**

As outlined in the 2009-10 budget papers (summary attached), \$63.45 million has been budgeted for expenditure on *Closing the Gap* in 2009-10.

# ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

## Question Taken on Notice

**Date:** 18 June 2009 **Output:** 1.2  
**Subject:** A Working Future  
**From:** Member for Arafura  
**To:** Minister for Indigenous Policy  
**Department:** Department of the Chief Minister

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**Number:** 8.25 (ix)

**Question:**

**In terms of the \$300m - will those government agencies be meeting their targets under *Closing the Gap*? Rather than going through it, if I could have that information?**

**Answer:**

As indicated at 8.25 (viii) above, the Territory Government's \$300m Closing the Gap commitment will continue to be rolled out in 2009-10. The latest report ([http://www.workingfuture.nt.gov.au/download/CTG\\_report.pdf](http://www.workingfuture.nt.gov.au/download/CTG_report.pdf)) shows that in the first year of *Closing the Gap* progress was made against more than 60 priority actions.

The Government has announced that the COAG *Closing the Gap* targets – including sub targets and performance indicators agreed through the various National Agreements and performance indicators – will be adopted as the Territory's reporting frame going forward. Reporting will continue against those targets set by the Territory Government that are not accommodated within the COAG reporting framework (for example, those applying to child protection and safety).

Reporting will occur on an annual basis.

# ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

## Question Taken on Notice

**Date:** 18 June 2009 **Output:** 1.2  
**Subject:** A Working Future  
**From:** Member for Arafura  
**To:** Minister for Indigenous Policy  
**Department:** Department of the Chief Minister

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**Number:** 8.25 (x)

### Question:

**Minister, what will be the establishment and recurrent costs respectively for the one stop shops that have been outlined under the *Working Futures* and will that money come out of the more than \$160m amount? What is the difference, if any, between the role of the person running a one-stop-shop and that of a Government Business Manager under the Federal Government's intervention? What will be the establishment and the recurrent cost, respectively, for the Territory Coordinator-General for Indigenous Services?**

### Answer:

The National Partnership Agreement on Remote Service Delivery provides that the Commonwealth will fund 2/3 of the cost of the single government interface and states/territories will meet the remaining 1/3 cost (see Part 5, Financial Arrangements).

Arrangements (including financial arrangements) for the implementation of the single government interface in the Northern Territory are currently under negotiation. As outlined in the National Partnership Agreement, the new structures are to be in place within six months of the Implementation Plan being agreed by both governments (Clause 24(c)(iii)).

The role of the Single Government Interface is to "provide for interaction between communities and all government agencies at all stages of the service planning and delivery cycle. The interface, consisting of one or more senior 'champions' or 'business managers' will coordinate service delivery of commitments made by governments under [the National Partnership] Agreement" (Clause 21(b)).

The Northern Territory Coordinator-General for Remote Services is employed part-time at the Executive Contract Officer 6 level, receiving a salary of less than \$150,000 per annum.

# **ESTIMATES COMMITTEE**

## **Question Taken on Notice**

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**Subject:** A Working Future  
**From:** Member for Arafura  
**To:** Minister for Indigenous Policy  
**Department:** Department of the Chief Minister

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**Number:** 8.25 (xi)

**Question:**

**I would like to know what the establishment and recurrent cost respectively for Mr Beadman's position which is Territory Coordinator-General for Indigenous Services, and what the cost is going to be for his associated bureaucracy and will that money come out of the more than \$160m amount?**

**Answer:**

As outlined at 8.25(x) above.

The Northern Territory Government has budgeted expenditure of \$1 million for 2009-10 and \$2 million for 2010-11 ongoing to establish a service delivery coordination mechanism for the delivery of services in remote communities.

| <b>Closing the Gap Initiatives by Agency</b>                 | <b>2009-10</b> |
|--|----------------|
|  | <b>\$M</b>     |
| <b>Department of the Chief Minister</b>                      | <b>3.20</b>    |
| Jobs   | 2.50           |
| Indigenous Economic Development Initiatives                  | 0.60           |
| Indigenous Affairs Advisory Council                          | 0.10           |
| <b>Police, Fire and Emergency Services</b>                   | <b>6.50</b>    |
| Expand Child Abuse Taskforce                                 | 4.20           |
| Remote Policing Strategy                                     | 2.30           |
| <b>Education and Training</b>                                | <b>9.43</b>    |
| Stakeholders Partnership Program                             | 1.71           |
| School Attendance Team                                       | 0.40           |
| Value of Schooling Education Campaign                        | 0.10           |
| Additional Teachers  | 2.40           |
| Mobile Preschools  | 2.00           |
| Regional Hostels for Senior Studies                          | 0.20           |
| IT Resources in Schools                                      | 0.60           |
| Children's Services Regulations                              | 0.20           |
| Child Protection Unit  | 0.70           |
| Chief Minister's Scholarship Program                         | 0.12           |
| Early Childhood Development and Learning Programs            | 1.00           |
| <b>Health and Families</b>                                   | <b>15.63</b>   |
| Children's Commissioner                                      | 0.35           |
| Young People Leaving Care Program                            | 0.20           |
| Child Abuse Community Education Campaign                     | 0.08           |
| Child Abuse Taskforce  | 2.00           |
| Additional Care and Case Management for Children             | 2.00           |
| Residential Care Unit  | 1.50           |
| Therapeutic Services   | 0.60           |
| Additional Child Protection Workers                          | 1.50           |
| Network of Aboriginal Child Protection and Care Services     | 1.80           |
| Sexual Assault Referral Centre                               | 1.20           |
| Integrated Community Based Family Violence Programs          | 1.50           |
| Alcohol and Drug Rehabilitation Services                     | 0.10           |
| Antenatal and Maternal Health Programs                       | 1.50           |
| Chronic Disease Programs                                     | 1.30           |
| <b>Department of Justice</b>                                 | <b>5.82</b>    |
| Court Clinicians   | 0.28           |
| Community Courts   | 0.42           |
| Additional Corrections Officers                              | 1.0            |
| Witness Assistance Services                                  | 0.2            |
| Licensing Identification System                              | 0.52           |
| Alcohol Management Plans                                     | 0.50           |
| Additional Compliance Officers                               | 0.30           |
| Return to Home program                                       | 0.05           |
| Alcohol Education and Awareness Program                      | 0.2            |
| Gambling Education and Awareness Program                     | 0.25           |
| Rehabilitation Programs for Sexual Offenders                 | 0.90           |
| Indigenous Family Violence Offender Program                  | 1.0            |
| Elders Visiting Program                                      | 0.21           |
| <b>Local Government and Housing</b>                          | <b>2.70</b>    |
| Remote Community Sport and Rec Programs                      | 1.0            |
| Local Communities and Governance Structures                  | 1.7            |
| <b>TOTAL OPERATIONAL</b>                                     | <b>43.28</b>   |
| <b>2009-10 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM</b>                         | <b>29.70</b>   |
| Government Employee Housing (DLGH)                           | 19.57          |
| Residential Care Unit  | 1.0            |
| Additional Counsellor Office Space (DET)                     | 0.4            |
| Homeland Centre Upgrades and Additional Learning Space (DET) | 8.73           |