



Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2022-2023

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

Asked by Ms Nicole Lawder MLA on 15 November 2023: Mr Moyle took on notice the following question(s):

Reference: Hansard uncorrected proof transcript 15 November 2023 [PAGE 15-16]

In relation to: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander agreement annual reporting dashboard

MS LAWDER: Question about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander agreement annual reporting dashboard which appears to have information from 2019-2021 but not more recent data. Is it supposed to be being updated annually as the name implies?

Mr Moyle: Minister, would you like me to take this one?

Ms Stephen-Smith: Yes. I hear you, Ms Lawder. I have in fact raised this issue in relation to how often the dashboard is updated. Some of the data, though—before I hand to Mr Moyle—some of the data is not available on an annual basis, but I have asked that we have a process to make sure that it is updated when data becomes available.

Mr Moyle: So we are currently going through a process where we have got a data map now. The challenge for us is, as the Minister was saying, some data is actually available quite regularly; some data against some of the indicators just is not actually available. We find this with Closing the Gap as well where I think four of the actual key targets have not been able to be reported on at a national level because there is just no data actually available.

What we are doing through our data process is to identify so we can update regularly but also start to identify where there is data gaps as well, and what we might be able to do to actually collect that data. Part of the conversation we also have to have is with the Aboriginal community control sector itself, particularly under Closing the Gap priority reform 4, and how we actually work together to build data metrics to not just give us what we actually need but support the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community control sector help to make informed decisions as well.

MS LAWDER: In April 2022 there was the 2021 impact statement released. Is the information on the online dashboard the same as the information in that 2021 impact statement?

Mr Moyle: Generally with the dashboard, it has been getting updated to a certain point in time. It depends on when the thresholds and milestones were but I have those approved data. In terms of

the annual reports like the impact statement of Closing the Gap annual report, they do contain more up-to-date information. This is something that we have actually just gone through.

I know some are working through the processes in terms of new reports, but I think the Closing the Gap annual report was tabled and has been released in September, and we are finding there is a disconnect between what the Productivity Commission is publishing at any point in time because it is based again on when their data collection points are as opposed to when we are actually providing our reports, which is quite often more recent information.

MS LAWDER: So the one you said was released in September, will the dashboard be updated to reflect that?

Mr Moyle: That is correct, yes.

MS LAWDER: And when might that be?

Mr Moyle: I will need to take that on notice but we are going through that process to actually do that now.

Ms Rachel Stephen-Smith: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Updates to the current Dashboard are expected to be released in December 2023.

The latest data updates in the Impact Statement 2023 and ACT Closing the Gap report are publicly available at <https://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/atsia/agreement-2019-2028>.

The 2023 Impact Statement can be accessed separately via:

https://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0011/2292563/Appendix-A-Impact-Statement-2023_FA.pdf

The Impact Statement 2023 provides an update of all available data that monitors the progress on outcomes for each Focus Area of the *ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement 2019-2028*. It also improves on the way data is presented to the public, including data visualisation and year-to-year data comparisons which is an update from previous Impact Statements.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

Signature:



Date:

20/11/23

By the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, Ms Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA