

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ARISING OUT OF THE ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS
BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING OF 28 AUGUST, 2006

Last year you promised that this year you would be able to give us a list of the programs that other departments were running, and how well they were doing – an audited list of the programs undertaken for the people for whom you are responsible. Are you able to do that?

ANSWER:

It is important to understand the role of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs in the whole of Government approach to the improvement of outcomes for Aboriginal people and their communities in this State.

In the context of the programs being run across Government, a key activity of the Department is the facilitation of the *NSW Government Aboriginal Affairs Plan 2003-2012 - Two Ways Together*, which achieves a collaborative approach by relevant agencies in addressing Aboriginal disadvantage.

The Plan focuses on 7 priority areas for action with measurable targets and a monitoring system to ensure agencies are held accountable for results.

This Government has also committed \$40 million over 4 years to accelerate key initiatives in five focus areas, working intensively with Aboriginal families in the areas of:

- Reducing Incarceration and Breaking the Cycle of Family Violence
- Improving Year 3 and 5 Literacy and Numeracy and School Retention Rates
- Otitis Media – Conductive Hearing Loss
- Increasing Aboriginal Employment
- Improving Living Conditions

There are a large number of individual programs of varying size and complexity being run through agencies within the NSW Government aimed at addressing Aboriginal disadvantage.

There are also a substantial number of programs across Government that assist Aboriginal people that are not Aboriginal-specific programs.