

Statement from Nigel Scullion's office:

Indigenous Advancement Strategy

- Funding provided under the \$5 billion Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS) is administered with a high degree of accountability and governance.
- Applications for grant funding under the IAS are assessed against the assessment criteria as outlined in the IAS Guidelines.
- Assessment times for applications can vary depending on the complexity of the application.
- When deciding on approving funding under the IAS, consideration is given to whether a proposal will make an effective, efficient and ethical use of Australian Government resources.
- The Minister strongly defends and stands behind every single ministerial decision he makes, including decisions around IAS funding.
- With regards to transparency, information about individual grants is published [online](#).
- Under this government, and through the IAS, we have also seen an increase in funding go towards Indigenous organisations as a proportion of all funding – from 30 per cent before the introduction of the Indigenous Advancement Strategy up to 45 per cent currently.

East Arnhem Mediation Project

- Sunrise Alliance Inc. was funded to 30 June 2017 to provide restorative justice and mediation conferences in Galiwinku and other nearby communities in East Arnhem Land.
- An application from Sunrise Alliance Inc to further extend funding was declined in July 2017. Feedback was provided to the organisation at that time.
- The Department provided approval for Sunrise Alliance to use unexpended activity funds to wind down their operations over the three months to end September 2017.
- An Indigenous organisation has applied through the Indigenous Advancement Strategy to deliver similar services in Galiwinku. This application is still under assessment.