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Freedom of Information request FOI/1920/027

- 1) Any documents held by the National Indigenous Australians Agency regarding communication between the Minister for Indigenous Australians or his Office and the Indigenous Advisory Council;
- 2) Any documents provided by the National Indigenous Australians Agency to the Minister for Indigenous Australians or his office regarding recommendations to replace Ms Andrea Mason as the Chair of the Indigenous Advisory Council;
- 3) Any documents provided by the National Indigenous Australians Agency to the Minister for Indigenous Australians or his Office regarding the future of the Indigenous Advisory Council including any possible meetings; and
- 4) Any documents held by the National Indigenous Australians Agency with advice from the Minister for Indigenous Australians to the Prime Minister about the future of the Indigenous Advisory Council.

The time period for this request is from the Minister's appointment on 29 May 2019 to present (2 September 2019), a period of almost 100 days.

Doc #	Date	Description	Pages	Decision	Provision
1	25 June 2019	Question Time Brief	1-3	Exempt in part with irrelevant material deleted	s.47C s.22(1)(a)(ii)
2	15 July 2019	Brief to Prime Minister	–	Exempt in full	s.47C
3	15 July 2019	Brief Attachment A – nominee matrix	–	Exempt in full	s.47C s.47F(1)
4	15 July 2019	Brief Attachment B – nominee biographies	–	Exempt in full	s.47C s.47F(1)
5	15 July 2019	Brief Attachment C – letters to current members	–	Exempt in full	s.47C

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PRIME MINISTER'S INDIGENOUS ADVISORY COUNCIL

KEY POINTS

- s.47C
- The Prime Minister and I value the advice we receive from the Council.
- The Prime Minister is considering how we can harness the expertise of members to ensure that the Council is in the best possible position to provide advice on a range of matters, in particular, the Government's immediate priorities of addressing Indigenous youth suicide and education.

s.22(1)(a)(ii)

IF ASKED [APPOINTMENTS TO THE COUNCIL]

- Appointments to the Council, including filling the vacancy created by Ms Andrea Mason OAM's resignation, are currently being considered by the Prime Minister.

OUR COMMITMENTS

- The continuation of the Council demonstrates the Government's commitment to work in genuine partnership with First Australians.
- The Council offers Indigenous Australians a voice at the highest level of government – directly to the Prime Minister.
- The Government's priorities for Indigenous Australians include finalising the Closing the Gap Refresh, preventing young people from dying through suicide, increasing school attendance, getting people into jobs, enhanced local decision making through an enhanced Empowered Communities model, co-design of a Voice and truth telling.
 - The Council will provide the Government advice on these priority areas, with a specific focus on providing advice on Indigenous youth suicide and education.

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LABOR'S RECORD

- N/A

BACKGROUND

- The Council was established by former Prime Minister, the Hon Tony Abbott, in 2013.
- The Council's current term of appointment commenced on 8 February 2017 and concludes on 31 January 2020.
- Currently there are only five members of the Council with expertise in areas of economic development, health, remote communities and Torres Strait Islander considerations:
 - Mr Roy Ah-See (Co-Chair)
 - Professor Ngiare Brown
 - Ms Susan Murphy
 - Mr Djambawa Marawili AM
 - Mr Fraser Nai

- s.47C 

- s.22(1)(a)(ii) 

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Last Updated: 25/06/2019

○ s.22(1)(a)(ii)



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