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GENERAL SYNOD

PRIME MINISTER

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Ms Anne Hywood
General Secretary
Anglican Church of Australia
Suite 4, Level 3, 189 Kent Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Ms Hywood

Thank you for your letter dated 19 September 2017 regarding family violence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

I acknowledge the resolution moved by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia to help address the appalling rates of family violence and the disproportionate impact on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

I share your concerns on this important issue. The levels of violence experienced by women and their children is simply unacceptable and that is why, as Prime Minister, I have made this issue a priority of my Government.

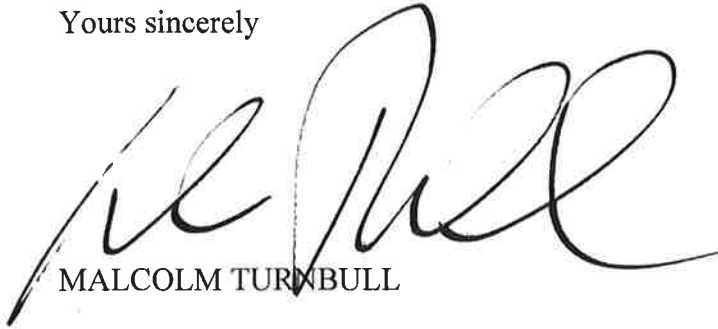
Under the Third Action Plan of the *National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022* (Third Action Plan), my Government is investing \$25 million in Indigenous-specific measures to reduce family violence. This includes services for perpetrators to encourage behavior change, intensive family-focused case management to address behaviors that lead to family violence, trauma-informed therapeutic services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and holistic, case managed crisis support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children experiencing family violence.

This is in addition to the \$21 million of Indigenous specific investment under the Women's Safety Package (the Package) announced in 2015, including \$8 million to ensure that police in the Northern Territory, Queensland, Western Australia and South Australia are better equipped to respond to domestic and family violence, keeping victims safe and holding perpetrators to account. The Package also provided \$12.5 million to extend prisoner throughcare services to deliver rehabilitation activities to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perpetrators of domestic violence to change their behaviour and \$1.1 million to develop a targeted domestic violence module for nurses who work for the Australian Nurse Family Partnership Programme.

Under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy, my Government is also investing around \$264 million in 2017-18 in a range of activities to address the drivers of violence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, including alcohol and drug treatment services, support to improve remote policing and activities to prevent offending, re-offending and reduce violence.

Thank you once again for your letter and for your commitment to help address this most important issue.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Malcolm Turnbull', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above the printed name.

MALCOLM TURNBULL