

RECEIVED  
14 APR 2009  
BY: MIG

Submission No 129P

**Joint Standing Committee on Migration**  
**Written questions to the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC)**  
**29 January 2009**

- **What is the current budget allocation available for NGO service providers that assist with alternatives to detention?**
- **What are the criteria for the allocation of funding?**

**DIAC Response**

Funding to service providers is not allocated. Payment is made to the contracted NGO when invoices are received for the services provided under the contract. The following information is provided in relation to NGOs assisting with services in relation to Community Detention and the Community Care Pilot.

**Community Detention**

Since its introduction in June 2005 the annual budget for the Community Detention (CD) Program has been \$2 million of which a proportion is allocated to the Australian Red Cross for the provision of services to clients living in CD arrangements on the mainland. These costs do not include health services which are provided by the International Health and Medical Services (IHMS) as part of their detention health contract with the Department. The Department has allowed \$1.043 million to the Red Cross for the 08-09 financial year.

**Community Care Pilot**

In the 2008-09 Budget, the Commonwealth Government announced the extension of the Community Care Pilot (CCP) for a further 12 months with an allocation of \$5.6 million. A summary of how the Pilot operates was tabled by the Department at its appearance before the Committee on 24 September 2008.

Within the funding, specific allocations of funds to NGO service providers are not made. The contracted service providers are paid (on receipt of invoice) for services provided under the contract. These service providers are outlined below:-

- The **Australian Red Cross** provides community assistance services for CCP clients;
- The **International Organization for Migration (IOM)** provides immigration information and counselling;
- Under the **Immigration Advice and Application Assistance Scheme (IAAAS)**, one provider in each state of operation (NSW, VIC, QLD), provides this service to CCP clients.