

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Social Services Portfolio**  
**2014-15 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 2**

**Question No: 900**

**Topic: Multiculturalism**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator Brown** asked:

1. Humanitarian Settlement Services are without mention in the Budget. What is the current status of this program?
2. If the program has been abolished: will migrant resource centres receive any additional funding to continue operating?
3. If funding has been cut from the program: how much funding was cut and how will this affect the services provided by migrant resource centres?

**Answer:**

1. Funding for Humanitarian Settlement Services (HSS) of \$351.3 million has been allocated over four years from 1 July 2014 under *Outcome 2: Families and Communities Programme 2.1 – Settlement services* (page 98 of the Department of Social Services Portfolio Budget Statements 2014-15).
2. Refer to Answer 1.
3. Following changes to programme eligibility in August 2013, programme funding was decreased by \$28.4 million in 2013-14. (Refer to Economic Statement, August 2013 [http://www.budget.gov.au/2013-14/content/economic\\_statement/html/06\\_app\\_b.htm](http://www.budget.gov.au/2013-14/content/economic_statement/html/06_app_b.htm) (Table B2 refers) for more information.) The 2013-14 funding allocation for HSS was also affected by a rollover of \$16.2 million from 2013-14 to 2014-15, to reflect expected refugee and humanitarian arrival numbers in 2014-15 rather than 2013-14 as originally projected.