SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Output 2.1

Question No. 40

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 13 February 2007:

National Handgun Buyback Program

Has the final reconciliation and termination of the National Handgun buyback program occurred? a) If not:

- i) When is this expected to occur?
- ii) What is the final impediment to this occurring?
- b) How much has been expended on this program in 2006/07 so far?
- c) What is the currently outstanding of money still under consideration?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Finalisation and termination of the National Handgun Buyback program has not occurred.

- a) i) It is expected that finalisation will occur by the end of the 2006/07 financial year.
- ii) Finalisation of the program is dependent on the provision of information and documentation by the States and Territories, and the determination of compensation payments under the unviable business scheme.
- b) No money has been expended on this program in 2006/07 so far.
- c) There is approximately \$11 million still under consideration. This includes the final payment of compensation to jurisdictions, compensation for unviable businesses and payment to CrimTrac for the National Handgun Buyback Support System.