

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 FEBRUARY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE12/0369) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash asked:

Yongah Hill's Detention facility: What is the status of the draft MOU between DIAC, state/territory law enforcement agencies and the AFP designed to resolve the legal uncertainties surrounding police powers, responsibilities and liabilities in relation to immigration detention centres across Australia?

Answer:

The Department is actively negotiating with the AFP and State and Territory Law Enforcement Agencies and has progressed bilateral discussions with all parties, with some discussions being more advanced than others.

Tasmania Police signed the MoU on 6 February 2012 and the Northern Territory Police signed on 12 March 2012. The Department is working closely with the remaining jurisdictions to finalise their MoU as a matter of priority.