

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0405) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

To date, how many MOUs have been finalised between the Department, the AFP and local police? What is the current status of negotiations with police in each state?

Answer:

The department and the AFP signed an MOU on collaborative working arrangements on 3 July 2012. As at 11 February 2013, an annexure to this MOU for the provision of policing services on Christmas Island is close to finalisation.

An MOU with the Northern Territory Police and the AFP was signed on 12 March 2012.

An MOU with the Western Australia Police and the AFP was signed on 24 January 2013.

An MOU with Victoria Police for the control and investigation of certain incidents at Maribyrnong immigration detention centre was signed in 2009. It will be superseded by a new MOU which will include all facilities in Victoria and include the AFP as a party. As at 11 February 2013, a draft MOU is with Victoria Police for review.

As at 11 February 2013, negotiations with the Tasmanian Police for an MOU are progressing well and an MOU is expected to be signed in the near future.

A schedule for SA Police Services under the over-arching MOU with the South Australian government is currently being negotiated. As at 11 February 2013, the department is waiting on a formal proposal from SA Police.

A draft MOU template for the provision of policing services was provided to the Queensland Government on 17 January 2013. As at 11 February 2013, the department is awaiting advice from the Queensland Government regarding the ability for Queensland Police to accept payment for services under the proposed MOU.

The New South Wales Government is seeking a broad MOU covering Policing, Corrections, Fire and Emergency Services. As at 11 February 2013,

the NSW Department of Attorney-General and Justice are preparing a draft MOU which is yet to be provided to the department for review.