QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 22 May 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(172) Output 1.3: Enforcement of Immigration Law

Senator Ludwig (L&C 109) asked:

What is the cost of the mental health initiatives for detainees?

Answer:

Following the recommendations of the Palmer Report the Government agreed to immediate funding for enhancements to mental health services. Funds allocated are set out in Table 1.

2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	Total
\$3,566,500	\$3,927,000	\$3,973,000	\$4,024,500	\$4,077,000	\$19,568,000

Table 1. Palmer Report implementation - Mental health initiatives

In addition, within the costs of health services paid as part of the Detention Services Contract, there are costs attributable to mental health care of people in detention which cannot be disaggregated.

The 2006-07 Budget provided funds to support a Detention Health Branch in the Department to develop a future Detention Health Strategy and to novate and directly manage health services provision in detention. Funds allocated are set out in Table 2.

2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	Total
N/A	\$2,652,000	\$2,049,000	\$1,567,000	\$1,586,000	\$7,854,000

Table 2. Budget 2006-07