

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 29 MAY 2008

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(74) Output 2.4: Promoting the Benefits of a United and Diverse Society

Senator Barnett (L&CA 49) asked:

How much of the Living in Harmony grants was used to target and achieve social cohesion and harmony in the case of Cronulla?

Answer:

As part of the former Government's response to the Cronulla Riots, Surf Life Saving Australia (SLSA) and Sutherland Shire Council were funded for the project *On The Same Wave*.

Sutherland Shire Council received \$260 000 for a two year project and SLSA received \$600 000 for a 12 month project. The funds were used to conduct a series of community engagement strategies and a schools education program on the theme 'the beach is there to share'.

Following an approach by SLSA in 2007, the then Assistant Minister for Immigration and Citizenship wrote to the SLSA in September 2007 approving funding of a further \$600 000 for another 12 month project to increase interaction between Surf Life Saving Australia and community groups in Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, Victoria and New South Wales.