

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 23-24 MAY 2011**

#### **IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

#### **(BE11/0774) Program 6.1: Citizenship Settlement & Multicultural Affairs**

Senator Cash asked:

The Pacific Seasonal Workers Program in 2010/2011 received \$400,000 in funding. It has received the same amount in the 2011/2012 Budget. How was this funding spent in 2010/2011?

*Answer:*

The Pacific Seasonal Worker Pilot Scheme is administered by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

As part of its overall funding for Pilot responsibilities, the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) received \$400 000 for each year of the Pilot to fund social cohesion projects in communities participating in the Pilot. Projects supported through this funding for 2010/2011 period are:

North Burnett Regional Council, QLD - \$130 000  
Swan Hill Rural City Council, VIC - \$123 636  
Robinvale Network House, VIC - \$45 000

All three projects have been funded to run until the conclusion of the Pilot in June 2012. The projects intend to deliver an integrated social cohesion strategy that harmonises community diversity and facilitates acceptance and inclusion of Pacific Seasonal Workers.

The underspend of \$101 364 was returned to the Department's administered account.