

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 247

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 31 October 2005:

- a) How much of the funding provided to the AFP law enforcement cooperation program has been expended?
- b) Has all funding been expended?
 - (i) If not, how much funding has yet to be expended?
- c) Was there any variation to the stated budget for this program?
 - (i) If so, what was the variation?
 - (ii) Was additional funding provided, or did the program lose funding?
 - (iii) If the program lost funding, where was the funding transferred, and why?
 - (iv) Were any stop-gap measures put in place to ensure the continued operation of this program despite the variations?
- d) What was the stated outcome of the program at the time the funding commenced?
 - (i) Did the program meet its stated outcome?
 - (ii) If not, in which areas did it not meet its stated outcome?
 - (iii) Were any other measures or additional funding required to meet the stated outcome of the program?
- e) Has a review been conducted of the program?
 - (i) If so, could you provide a copy?
 - (ii) If not, why not?
 - (iii) Is one being conducted, or will one be conducted?
 - (iv) Are there any interim reports available?
 - (v) Are there any plans to produce any interim reports?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

In the 2003 - 04 Budget, the Government provided continuation funding of \$8.7m over four years for the NIDS AFP law enforcement cooperation program. This measure is the renewal of funding provided in 1999 - 2000 under the Government's National Illicit Drugs Strategy.

- a) To the end of October 2005, \$5m has been spent.
- b) No.
 - (i) \$3.7m of the \$8.7m funding remains unspent at the end of October 2005.

- c) No.
- (i) Not applicable.
 - (ii) Not applicable.
 - (iii) Not applicable.
 - (iv) Not applicable.
- d) The stated outcome of this program was to facilitate co-operation with overseas law enforcement agencies to increase the flow of intelligence information on activities that may impact adversely on Australia's security.
- (i) The program continues to successfully meet the stated outcome.
 - (ii) Not applicable.
 - (iii) No.
- e) No.
- (i) Not applicable.
 - (ii) No review has been required to be undertaken to date.
 - (iii) A review is scheduled to be undertaken as part of the 2007 - 08 budget process.
 - (iv) Not applicable.
 - (v) Not applicable.