

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Output: 2.1

Question No. 51

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

(a) How much has been recovered under the Proceeds of Crime Act? Please indicate:

- (i) Where have these funds been allocated in terms of grants and programs?
- (ii) How much has been allocated in each grant or program?
- (iii) What is the process of selecting the recipients of Proceeds of Crime funding?
- (iv) Who is responsible for selecting the recipients of this funding? Is it done by a committee?
- (v) What criteria is used to select programs and grants for funding?

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

(a) Total Receipts as at 30 September 2005 were \$13,212,667.50.

(a)(i) and (a)(ii)

• Equitable sharing - Queensland Police	\$94,622.74
• Equitable sharing - Indonesian Government	\$642,540.46
• Administration fee paid to ITSA for 2003-2004	\$22,000.00
• CrimTrac - ANCOR program	\$713,333.00
• AGD Administration of four drug treatment programmes	\$53,603.00
• Official Trustee - reimbursements under s297(1)e	\$25,087.62
• Attorney-General's Department - National Firearms Management System	\$1,000,000.00
• AFP Enhanced IT Intelligence Functionality	\$1,000,000.00
• Upgraded ACS CCTV at Australian airports	\$890,000.00
• AGD-Document verification study in conjunction with ATO	\$508,574.00
• AGD-Review of Extradition Act 1988 & Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters	\$1,119,347.00
• Annual Management Fee paid to ITSA 2004-2005	\$22,000.00
• Indigenous Festivals Australia - Croc Festivals Dept of Health & Ageing	\$105,000.00
• Legal Aid Commission - funding for legal representation under s297(1)h	\$100,000.00
• Australian Institute of Criminology - Drug Use Monitoring in Australia	\$360,000.00
• AFP Pilot for in-car computing system	\$394,000.00
• Youth Outreach Drug Treatment Program, Grampians Community Health Centre,	\$258,331
• Pre-Program and Re-Entry Program, Banyan House, NT	\$304,183
• Carinya Halfway and Aftercare Program, NSW	\$141,894
• Lifestyle Support Program, Wollongong Crisis Centre, NSW	\$385,800
• AMEND Program, St Luke's Nursing Service, QLD	\$218,367
• 2 to 1 Program, UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide, SA	\$330,341
• Youth Options Program, Drug Arm WA.	\$150,000
• Wesley Rehabilitation Services - Drug Rehabilitation, NSW	\$660,000.00
• Odyssey House - Drug Rehabilitation & Case Management, VIC	\$666,000.00
• Brisbane Home & Community-based Illicit Drug Treatment Service	\$652,100.00

(formerly OzCare)

(a)(iii), (a)(iv), and (a)(v)

Under section 298(2) *Proceeds of Crime Act 2002* (the Act), the Minister for Justice and Customs can approve funding for programs for: crime prevention measures; law enforcement measures; drug treatment measures; or diversionary measures that relate to the use of illegal drugs. Australian Government agencies can apply directly to the Minister for Justice and Customs for funding for crime prevention and law enforcement programs. The Attorney-General's Department provides advice to the Minister on proposals after consultation with relevant law enforcement agencies.

The seven drug prevention and treatment programs were assessed, prior to their approval, by the Department of Health and Ageing under the National Illicit Drug Strategy as part of the Non-Government Organisation Treatment Grants Program. The three drug treatment programs announced by the Prime Minister on 10 October 2005 were put forward to the Government by the Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD).

New arrangements for allocating funding to non-government organisations under the Act were recently announced. The new arrangements involve a two stage process for non-government organisations seeking funding to address a specified area of crime prevention, drug treatment or drug diversion: an initial Expression of Interest, followed by detailed applications from preferred applicants. The initial EIO process is expected to lessen the administrative demands placed on often under-resourced non-government organisations. Drug treatment and diversion will receive priority.

Expert panels will assist in the selection process to increase transparency, community participation and expertise. The expert panel for drug treatment and diversion proposals will include the Australian National Council on Drugs, the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, and the Department of Health and Ageing. The expert panel for crime prevention proposals is yet to be finalised.

Programs for non-government organisations are limited to a maximum of \$750,000 per approved program with a cap of \$250,000 that can be paid out to each program in any one year. Programs must also run for a minimum duration of three years (in line with current drug treatment project proposals).

The new arrangements for non-government organisation funding are available on the Department's website at http://agnet.ag.gov.au/agd/WWW/ncphome.nsf/Page/POCA_funding_for_Non-Government_Agencies. The Department is currently developing new Guidelines, Expression of Interest and detailed application forms which will also be available on the web.