

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

Output 2.1

Question No.53

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

Enhancing the capacity of Crime Stoppers

- a) Could you provide an update as to this budget measure, and how it is progressing?
- b) How much of the funding provided has been expended?
- c) Has all funding been expended?
 - (i) If not, how much funding has yet to be expended?
- d) 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?
- e) 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?
- (f) 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:

a) The 2002-2003 Budget included funding of \$1 million over 4 years to Crime Stoppers Australia Ltd (CSAL) from 2002 to 2005. The funding agreement is due to expire in October 2006.

The agreement provides that CSAL will facilitate national strategic direction, networking, information exchange and fundraising and provide assistance to the 8 separate Crime Stoppers in the expansion of their State and Territory based programmes. Payments are conditional on acceptance of a budget statement outlining the proposed next year expenditure and a report demonstrating satisfactory progress. The first and second instalments were approved for payment following receipt of satisfactory progress reports outlining the activities of CPAL and the 8 separate State and Territory based programmes. Crime Stoppers did not provide the third report until mid 2005 and the third instalment has been paid. The fourth report is now due and the organisation has advised that they are preparing the required documentation.

b) Funding totalling \$749,000 by three instalments of: \$249,000, \$249,000 and \$251,000, has been expended.

c) No

(i) The final instalment of \$251,000 is yet to be expended.

d). There has been no variation to the funding of \$1 million for the program.

(i) Not applicable

(ii) No

(iii) See answer d)

(iv) See answer d)

e) The Funding Agreement objectives are that Crime Stoppers Australia Ltd will facilitate national strategic direction, networking, information exchange and fundraising and provide assistance to the 8 member programs in the expansion of their Crime Stoppers programs.

(i) The program is not yet complete. The organisation is progressively meeting the stated objectives.

(ii) See answer (i)

(iii) No

(f) No.

(i) Not applicable

(ii) Not applicable

(iii) No

(iv) No, however the Department reviews progress reports compiled by the organisation before each funding instalment is authorised.

(v) No, other than the progress reports produced by the organisation.