

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 117

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 31 October 2006:

Regarding the statement in AGD QoN 71 from May Estimates, in relation to voluntary education programs in relation to terrorist legislative provisions, 'The Australian Federal Police (AFP) is presently examining available options for offering such programs under these provisions. The AFP is consulting with other government departments and agencies. A broad range of options is being considered...':

- a) Has the AFP concluded its examination of the options available for these programs? If so, please provide a list indicating, if not, when does the AFP expect that it will come to a conclusion?
- b) What options were under consideration?

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

- a) The AFP continues to examine how education and counselling may be used within the context of control orders. It is not envisaged that a definitive list of programs will ever be developed. Rather, any education and counselling which might be employed will need to be tailored to the individual circumstances of the person placed under the order. The use of education and counselling will also depend on the willingness of the person under the order to participate.
- b) Some of the options considered include religious education, psychological support and assistance with issues such as anger management, low self esteem, social identity and family separation. Programs developed overseas in countries such as Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia are also being examined as part of broader AFP considerations.