

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

**Output 2.3**

**Question No. 65**

**Senator Ludlam asked the following question at the hearing on 20 October 2008:**

With regard to the Dr Mohammed Haneef case:

- (a) outline the current and estimated future spending on this case? Is it still a live case for the Department, and
- (b) can you provide the amount the Department is spending overall on counter-terrorism measures?

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

(a) The Department did not expend resources on the case against Dr Haneef. The Department's role was limited to briefing government on developments, the operation of and decisions under relevant legislation, policy issues and the establishment of, and involvement in, the Clarke Inquiry, including the establishment of a financial assistance scheme under which members of the public appearing before the Inquiry could apply for assistance to meet their legal costs.

The Department is aware that on 29 August 2008, the AFP publicly announced that Dr Haneef was no longer a person of interest. The AFP further stated that it had concluded its active inquiries, although some overseas inquiries are yet to be fully resolved.

(b) Approximately \$45 million in 2007 – 2008.