

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 26

Senator Cash asked the following question at the hearing on 18 October 2011:

Senator CASH: My question is in relation to a contract notice.

Mr Negus: We will do our best to answer it.

Senator CASH: It is contract notice No. CN437586. The agency is the Department of Immigration and Citizenship, the category is police services, the contract period is 12 April 2011 to 30 June 2012, the contract value is \$753,605.41 and the description is 'AFP cost'. It says 'Villwood centre'. Is it meant to say Villawood centre?

Mr Negus: Like you, I would imagine so. We do actually send invoices to the department of immigration but I would not have thought they would be classified under a contract.

Senator CASH: No, it has come up as: 'Name: Australian Federal Police; Contract name: Property procurement and contracts'. My question, basically, is: what is it for?

Mr Negus: It might be best if we take it on notice. Broadly we do invoice DIAC for services provided, such as the Villawood detention centre or—

Senator CASH: What type of services would you have provided to, say, Villawood detention centre?

Mr Negus: Policing services which would be above the normal response to a particular incident.

Senator CASH: For example, during the riots?

Mr Negus: That is right; Christmas Island, likewise. There has been a recuperation of funds expended in those environments to support DIAC and Serco in those environments.

Senator CASH: Are you able to provide that information to me today, by any chance?

Mr Negus: We will do our best. We are just making sure we can get some information at this time. We will certainly get something back to you—yes or no.

Senator CASH: Thank you very much.

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Mr Wilkins: Chair, I have a communication here from the Australian Federal Police and it is asking me to advise this committee that, in relation to Senator Cash's question to the AFP in relation to the DIAC contract, and advise that this contract had been of course generated by DIAC. They are still trying to get a response to your question. I am advised by the AFP that, unfortunately, it will not be available this evening.

Senator CASH: Thank you very much.

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

The AFP can advise that this contract notice has been published on AusTender by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC).

This Contract Notice relates to an invoice issued by the AFP for the provision of additional police services to DIAC at immigration detention facilities.