

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 17 October 2011

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### **(SE11/0342) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention**

Senator Cash asked:

Inverbrackie: I refer to the answer given to EQON BE11/0666 which states that a Memorandum of Understanding between the South Australian police and the Department "is currently being progressed". What is the current status of this MOU? If it has been finalised, please provide the Committee with a copy. If it has not been finalised, why not? And when do you expect it to be finalised?

*Answer:*

The Department has been in regular communication with the AFP and all State and Territory Police forces including South Australia, to progress the agreement toward a stage where all Parties to the MOU are satisfied with the agreement.

The draft of the MOU has been sent most recently to all jurisdictions the week commencing 7 November 2011, with South Australia receiving the MOU and their corresponding Annexure on 9 November 2011.

The MOU is yet to be finalised, however the Department, the AFP and State and Territory police met on Wednesday 16 November for further productive discussions toward finalising this MOU. SAPOL were in attendance at this meeting and indicated that they were satisfied with the progress of the MOU and their respective Annexure.

The agreement has not yet been finalised. SAPOL have indicated that they are currently preparing a financial proposal for DIAC's consideration. Once this is received the Department expects the agreement can be finalised quickly.