

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (2006 Budget Measures) Bill 2006

AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Additional Questions Received 16 November 2006

Senator Ludwig asked the following additional question on 16 November 2006:

Senator Ludwig has one further question in relation to the CCPM. He would like to know whether the AFP is of the view that the change in 2005 to the CCPM has materially affected the acceptance of cases from Centrelink and other agencies; he would also like an outline of what the change in 2005 was.

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

The AFP did not change its CCPM in 2005, however, the AFP did amend the guideline provided to agencies on the CCPM and available through the AFP's website. This guideline was amended in February 2005. These changes related to updating it to reflect the establishment of the AFP's functional structure and the amendment of the AFP's Ministerial Direction in 2004. The guideline has been further amended in October 2006 to cater for the new AFP output structure and inclusion of Aviation as a function.

The AFP does not believe that the changes to the CCPM guideline have affected the acceptance of cases from Centrelink or other agencies.

Senator Ludwig asked the following additional question on 16 November 2006:

The AFP noted that in response to question 4 from Senator Ludwig that strict confidentiality of individual responses is observed with regard to the AFP's client satisfaction survey, therefore FACSIA's response couldn't be provided. Could the AFP provide instead an indication as to whether there was any dissatisfaction across the board (i.e. from all agencies including Centrelink) with regard to the AFP's handling of requests to execute a search? An indication of the nature and level of the dissatisfaction should be provided, as well as the number of agencies/departments that expressed dissatisfaction.

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

The AFP cannot answer this question. The client satisfaction survey does not ask specific questions about the execution of search warrants by the AFP for Commonwealth agencies.