Question: What is the total cost of the community detention program?

Answer: The cost of the community detention program for the 2010-11 financial year was $17.3 million.

The costs incurred to date reflect the high initial costs for the program (such as securing leases, connection fees for utilities and provision of household goods in each property). The department continues to work in partnership with the Australian Red Cross to ensure that value for money is delivered, while ensuring that clients receive services commensurate to their needs.