

JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT

Additional information regarding response to questions on notice

Question:

On behalf of the Committee, I am seeking additional information and clarification from the Attorney-General's Department in respect to Q1. The Committee would appreciate the department's advice on the breakdown of figures for the different elements of the countering violent extremism program (which made up the \$13.4 million in funding), and both the budgeted amounts that make-up this figure and actual expenditure. An explanation of the judgements supporting the differences between these allocations was also sought as part of the original question.

Answer:

The Countering Violent Extremism funding of \$13.4 million over four years commenced July 2014 and is made up of the following:

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| • Departmental funding and program administration
(staffing, suppliers, departmental expenses,
international engagement, ad-hoc running costs) | \$1.669m |
| • Jurisdictional Intervention Programs
(includes training development and delivery and LST grant programme) | \$9.577m |
| • Community Awareness and Education | \$1.455m |
| • Online Safety | \$0.66m |
| • Total | \$13.361m |

As at May 2017 CVE funding committed has included:

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| • Departmental funding and program administration
(staffing, suppliers, departmental expenses,
international engagement, ad-hoc running costs) | \$1.697m |
| • Jurisdictional Intervention Programs
(includes training development and delivery and LST grant programme) | \$8.474m |
| • Community Awareness and Education | \$1.003m |
| • Online Safety | \$0.302m |
| • Total | \$11.476m |

The department is on target to expend the full \$13.361m over the four year period to 30 June 2018.

The bulk of funding has been prioritised towards the establishment of jurisdictional Intervention Programs, which are a key priority for this Government to complement existing law enforcement and intelligence efforts to prevent and divert vulnerable Australians who are at risk of radicalisation to violent extremism.

In addition to the \$0.66m budgeted for Online Safety activities under this program, the department also administers the \$21.7m Challenging Terrorist Propaganda program (2015-16

to 2018-19) which delivers activities that aim to combat terrorist propaganda (particularly online).