



**SENATOR THE HON KATE LUNDY**

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY FOR IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

SENATOR FOR THE A.C.T.

The Hon Teresa Gambaro MP  
Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Citizenship and Settlement  
Member for Brisbane  
PO Box 98  
THE GRANGE QLD 4051

Dear Ms Gambaro *Teresa*

Thank you for your letters of 11 February 2011 to both the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, the Hon Chris Bowen MP, and me concerning expenditure reductions in Outcome 6 and the impact on ethnic community groups. I assure you that there is no reduction to funding for multicultural programs.

Outcome 6 of the DIAC Portfolio Budget is 'a cohesive, multicultural Australian society through promotion of cultural diversity and a unifying citizenship, decisions on citizenship status, and multicultural and citizenship policy advice and program design'. Therefore, citizenship and multicultural affairs programs both come under Outcome 6.

The change in expenditure in outcome 6 relates to a decline in processing workloads in the citizenship program as a direct result of changes to residency requirements put in place by the *Australian Citizenship Act 2007*. Thus, the difference in expenditure does not impact on funding for multicultural programs.

A copy of this correspondence has been sent to the Minister for his information.

Thank you for raising this matter.

Yours sincerely

  
Kate Lundy

16 MAR 2011