

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Output 2.1

Question No. 47

Senator Ludwig provided the following written question at the hearing on 24 May 2007:

With regard to persons found to have been trafficked into Australia:

- (a) What services and/or entitlements does the government provide for such persons?
- (b) How are such people made aware of the services and/or entitlements listed in response to part (a)?
 - (i) What methods for disseminating this information does the government use specifically in relation to trafficked persons? (eg website, brochure, telephone helpline)
 - (ii) What languages is this information provided in?
 - (iii) What procedures are in place for assisting people who only understand languages other than those listed in response to part (b)(ii)?
 - (1) Has this been required? If so on how many occasions and regarding which languages?
 - (iv) How were the languages listed in part (b)(ii) selected?
 - (v) Were the materials and services tested or consulted about with trafficked women?
 - (1) If so, give details of the consultations.
 - (2) If not, why not?
 - (vi) Were the materials and services tested or consulted about with support groups for trafficked women?
 - (1) If so, give details of the consultations.
 - (2) If not, why not?

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

- (a) See answer to Question on Notice 46—(a)
- (b) Information on services and entitlements is disseminated through the Trafficking-Communication Awareness Strategy. Australian Government agencies which deal with trafficking victims and cases also provide information on the services and entitlements.
 - (i) See answer to Question on Notice 46—paragraphs (b), (b)(i), and (b)(iii).

(ii) See answer to Question on Notice 46 – paragraph b(ii).

(iii) The Department of Immigration and Citizenship provides a translating and interpreting service, TIS National. The TIS National service is free to non-English speakers who are contacting a government service or agency. The TIS could assist in these circumstances.

(1) The TIS National Service has been used by trafficking victims. Data on the use of this service in trafficking matters is not readily available.

(iv) The Trafficking-Communication Awareness Strategy, including the selection of languages, was based on extensive consultation with stakeholders including the sex industry sector, health and social welfare organisations.

(v) Yes.

(1) Comments were sought from a range of victims, including those who have been on the *Support for Victims of People Trafficking Programme* for some time. These consultations were arranged through relevant non-government organisations.

(2) Not applicable.

(vi) Yes.

(1) The following non-government organisations were included in the consultation process: Project Respect; Scarlet Alliance; Immigrant Women Speakout Association; the Sydney Sexual Health Clinic; Sex Workers Outreach Project; and the Aids Council of NSW.

(2) Not applicable.