

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0786) Program 6.1: Multicultural and Citizenship Services

Senator Cash asked:

The National Anti-Racism strategy announced in the Multicultural Policy is a partnership between agencies. Please advise what has occurred with this initiative to date and a breakdown of costs.

Answer:

The new National Anti-Racism Partnership and Strategy will be an arrangement between the Department of Immigration and Citizenship; the Australian Human Rights Commission (and the Race Discrimination Commissioner); the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs; the Australian Multicultural Council (an initiative of the new multicultural policy which replaces the Australian Multicultural Advisory Council whose term expired on 30 June 2011); and the Attorney-General's Department. The partnership will also consult extensively with non-governmental organisations in shaping and implementing its strategy.

The partnership will design, develop and implement the strategy. It will have five key areas of effort: research and consultation; education resources; public awareness; youth engagement and ongoing evaluation. It will also take into account and build on existing efforts and resources in these areas.

It is proposed that the lead agency for the strategy will be the Australian Human Rights Commission. The breakdown of the funding across agencies may be adjusted as work on the strategy develops.

The budget for this initiative is \$1,669.628 million broken down by year:

2011-12: \$410,498

2012-13: \$415,491

2013-14: \$420,410

2014-15: \$423,229