

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE  
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

**Question No. 169**

**Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 31 October 2005:**

- a) Is the response to foot and mouth disease & other quarantine matters program complete?
- b) Were the funds fully expended?
- c) How were the funds expended? (specify allocation)
- d) Were any positions tied directly to this program?
  - (i) *If yes, now the program has been expired are they redundant?*
- e) Did it meet budget?
- f) How much did it go over or under?
- g) Please provide a breakdown of final expenditure?

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

- a) The 'Foot and Mouth Disease & Other Quarantine Matters' program is an on-going program.
- b) Yes. All funding provided to date has been expended on the program.
- c) The funds were expended across the following activities for the last 2 financial years. Please note that employee and supplier costs would be split across these categories, but the exact break-up is not available.

	<b>2003-04</b>	<b>2004-05</b>
Air Cargo and Air Pax	75%	74%
Postal operations	6%	6%
Investigations	9%	10%
Other	10%	10%

- d) Additional staff were engaged to perform this function rather than being tied to the program.
  - (i) Not Applicable.
- e) Customs has deployed resources in accordance with the requirement of this Government initiative and the costs incurred have been consistent with the funding provided by Government.
- f) Not Applicable.
- g) The majority of funds were directed towards additional employees with the greater part of those employees targeting the air environment such as cargo and passengers. Additional employees were also directed to duties at international mail exchanges and to do investigation work.