

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Output 2.1

Question No. 54

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

- a) Is the handgun buyback program complete?
 - i) If not, how is it being funded now given it was discretely funded in 2004 and 2005?
 - ii) If it is receiving continuing funding, please outline anticipated cost?
- b) Were these from 2004 and 2005 fully expended?
- c) How were these funds expended (specify allocation)
- d) Were these positions tied directly to this program?
 - i) If yes, now the program has 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) No.
 - i) Funding is secured through the special appropriation facility in section 9 of the *National Handgun Buyback 2003*.
 - ii) It is not possible to determine the exact costs until State and Territory governments have finalised their claims for reimbursement.
- b) No.
- c) Australian Government expenditure for the programme to date (as at 27 September 2005)

Administration Advances to State and Territory governments	\$ 14,998,030.66
Reimbursement Payments to State and Territory governments	\$ 70,148,650.80
Commonwealth Administration	\$ 3,179,403.65
Total	\$ 88,326,085.11

- d) There are two positions tied to the program.
 - i) Not applicable
- e) There was no specific budget given for the National Handgun Buyback.
- f) Not applicable.
- g) Not applicable.