

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

**Output 2.4**

**Question No. 76**

**Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 31 October 2006:**

With reference to page 111 of the Annual Report and regarding the \$4.483 million communication upgrade of the ASNET network, please explain what format the new network is using and what it was upgraded from.

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

In 2003-04, funding of \$25.3 million over four years was provided to the Attorney-General's Department to upgrade the Australian Secure Network (ASNET). The \$4.483 million amount referred to in the Annual Report is the annual ongoing operating costs for 2005-06 from the original allocation. The upgrade included current generation encryption and communications technology to overcome limited reach and reliability problems. ASNET provides secure email and data transmission, and a secure intranet facility hosting information for ASNET users.