

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### **(358) Program 5.1: AMEP / Settlement Services for Migrants and Refugees**

Senator Cash asked:

In the 2009-10 financial year, the Geelong Ethnic Communities Council Inc was granted \$327,500.00. Further grants in 2010-2011 and 2011-12 of an additional \$654,000.00 have been earmarked. This grant is stated to be for "Community Development and Integration Services and Orientation to Australia Services.

(a) What are the measures of financial accountability and outcomes for the Geelong Ethnic Communities Council?

(b) Please detail by year; how this money was spent and what community development activities took place.

*Answer:*

(a) The Funding Agreement between the Department of Immigration and Citizenship and the Geelong Ethnic Communities Council Inc included an Approved Budget, performance monitoring measures and project outcomes as part of approved work program. The Agreement required the organisation to provide an end of year Audited Financial Statement detailing how funds were spent and two written progress reports at 6 and 12 months of each financial year outlining its performance against the Outcomes and Activities set out in the approved work program for the relevant period. In addition, interviews were held between the organisation and the Department's grants manager on progress against the work program.

(b) The Geelong Ethnic Communities Council Inc was awarded funding for one project over a three-year period (\$396,000 in 2009-10, \$327,500 in 2010-11 and 2011-12). Following are details of GECC expenditure and project activities under the SGP grants for the 2009-10 financial year:

- V09/6021 (\$251,000)

SGP Labour Costs	\$195,182.00
SGP Project Costs	\$ 14,568.00
Organisational Costs	\$ 44,400.00
TOTAL	\$254,150.00

There were no Community Development activities in this grant as it was approved for Service Type 1 (Orientation to Australia) activities only.

- *V09/6017 (\$76,500)*

SGP Labour Costs	\$53,712.00
SGP Project Costs	\$13,241.00
Organisational Costs	\$10,476.00
TOTAL	\$77,429.00

This grant delivered a comprehensive life skill program to address the identified issues of utility service provision and home & personal safety. The program involved group information sessions for a target of 70 eligible SGP clients.

- *V07/4576 (\$68,500)*

SGP Labour Costs	\$49,200.00
SGP Project Costs	\$11,922.00
Organisational Costs	\$ 9,760.00
TOTAL	\$70,882.00

The grant provided community development activities to support and assist Sudanese, Karen, Liberian communities in:

- women and youth mentoring
- leadership development
- advocacy with mainstream service providers and
- grant applications