

# REPORT FOR TABLING IN PARLIAMENT BY THE COMMONWEALTH AND IMMIGRATION OMBUDSMAN

*Under s 486O of the Migration Act 1958*

*Personal identifier: 329/07*

This is the second s 486O report by the Ombudsman on Ms X as she had remained in immigration detention following the Ombudsman's first report (118/06). The Ombudsman's first report was sent to the Minister on 29 December 2006 and tabled in Parliament on 21 March 2007. This report updates the material in that report and should be read in conjunction with it.

## Case overview

1. Ms X was granted a Bridging Visa and released from detention in February 2007. A s 417 request resulted in the Minister granting Ms X a Global Special Humanitarian Visa (GSHV) on 30 May 2007.

## Ombudsman consideration

2. The Department's (DIAC) report to the Ombudsman under s 486N of the *Migration Act 1958* is dated 30 January 2007.
3. Ombudsman staff interviewed Ms X by telephone on 17 April 2007.
4. Ombudsman staff sighted a psychology summary report from Professional Support Services (PSS) dated 9 January 2007.


## Key issues

### *Health and welfare*

7. While in detention Ms X had weekly to monthly sessions with PSS, who advised that Ms X reported to be experiencing feelings of hopelessness, irritability and low mood. It is further noted that her unresolved loss and grief issues relating to the death of her daughter in 2002 had a significant impact on her mental health, and that the loss of photos of her daughter after a room search '*appeared to have exacerbated some of her depressive symptoms*'.
8. The PSS report noted that Ms X was referred to the internal psychiatrist and the Mental Health Multidisciplinary team and, at her request, to Transcultural Mental Health Services to discuss these loss and grief issues. At interview Ms X stated that she did not find these appointments helpful.

## Ombudsman assessment/recommendation

9. The Ombudsman notes that Ms X is now the holder of a GSHV and makes no recommendations in this report.



Prof. John McMillan  
Commonwealth and Immigration Ombudsman

16 November 2007  
Date