

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

Group: 3

Program: Other Agency

Question No. SBE14/054

Senator Bilyk asked the following question at the hearing on 20 November 2014:

Mr Colvin: Absolutely not. There are always reasons why we may need to, but, at the moment and in the foreseeable future, the security situation at Hobart airport, I believe, has a very good response from the Tasmania Police. Citizens of Hobart should be comfortable with those arrangements in relation to the President's visit recently. As we said all along, if there was a need for us to surge or supplement Tasmania Police with additional resources or capabilities, we would. That is what we did with the Chinese President's visit this week, and, should there be a need to do that again, we would obviously assess it and do it again.

Senator BILYK: You sent extra AFP down there this week—is that correct?

Mr Colvin: We did, yes.

Senator BILYK: Can you tell me how many?

Mr Colvin: We would have to check that. It was a range of capabilities.

Senator BILYK: If you could take that on notice, I would be interested.

Mr Colvin: It was a range of different capabilities.

Senator BILYK: Are you able to take that on notice and tell me what those different capabilities were?

Mr Colvin: Yes, absolutely.

Senator BILYK: Thank you. I am happy with my five minutes.

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

The AFP deployed eight members to Hobart for the Chinese President's visit as follows:

- three Aviation members from Melbourne Airport;
- one canine handler from Canberra;
- two Close Protection Senior Liaison Officers who travelled with the official party throughout Australia; and
- two Protection Liaison members from Canberra for field intelligence duties.