

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Output 2.3

Question No. 135

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 16 February 2004:

The questions relate to the review of the natural disaster relief and mitigation arrangements conducted by COAG

- a) What progress has been made in the adoption of the recommendations of this report?
- b) Have all the recommendations of the Report relevant to EMA been implemented?
- c) Has EMA decided to not implement any of the recommendations of the report. The report includes Recommendation 10, which states: *The high level group recommends that natural disaster mitigation programmes be administered by a single Commonwealth department because of the advantage this provided for states, territory and local governments, and the interrelated nature of the programmes.*
- d) Is EMA the coordinating body for disaster management in Australia?
- e) What other Federal Government agencies are involved in disaster management response and coordination?
- f) Have any steps been taken to ensure Recommendation 10 of the COAG report has been implemented?

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

- a) The outcomes of the Report were endorsed out of session by COAG in January 2004 and work to implement recommendations could not commence before the report was released from embargo on 2 February 2004. This delayed work to commence the process of implementing recommendations.
- b) Work has been completed to establish high level government machinery arrangements for the consideration of national strategic emergency management policy issues in accordance with Recommendations 51 and 52 of the Report. The first meeting of the reconstituted Australian Emergency Management Committee (AEMC) took place on 2 March 2004 and determined priorities for the implementation of other recommendations.
- c) It is likely that, due to the time elapsed between completion of the report and endorsement by COAG, some recommendations will no longer be required due to changed circumstances or ongoing work. All jurisdictions have been asked by AEMC to provide details of recommendations no longer considered relevant through being overtaken by other initiatives or through ongoing work, and these will form a baseline for implementation of the remaining recommendations.
- d) Revision of Administrative Arrangements Order, effective 26 November 2001, covered responsibility for natural disaster relief arrangements. In particular, the Order specified that responsibility for financial management and jurisdictional reimbursement following a disaster rests with the Department of Transport and Regional Services. The Order also specified that the Attorney-General is responsible for emergency management matters. EMA, a Division within the Attorney-General's Department, is the coordinating body for Australian Government emergency management matters in Australia and the provision of assistance on request in times of disaster. Constitutional responsibility for the protection of

life and property rests with States and Territories. State and Territory Governments are therefore responsible for coordinating emergency management arrangements within their jurisdiction.

- e) Depending on the nature of the disaster, some or all of the following Australian Government agencies are involved in disaster management response and coordination in Australia:
- Department of Transport and Regional Services
 - Department of Health and Ageing
 - Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
 - Department of Defence
 - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
 - Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources
 - Department of Communication, Information Technology and the Arts
 - Department of Family and Community Services
 - Attorney-General's Department
 - Bureau of Meteorology
 - Centrelink
 - Geoscience Australia.
- f) All national natural disaster mitigation programmes are now administered through the Department of Transport and Regional Services.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Output 2.4

Question No. 136

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 16 February 2004

- (a) Have dates been set for the *Mercury 2004* counter-terrorism exercise? If so, what are they?
- (b) On each date, where will the counter-terrorism exercises be held?
- (c) What is the budgeted cost of the *Mercury 2004* exercises?
- (d) Which agencies and Ministers (both Commonwealth and State) will be involved?
- (e) What are the goals of the exercise?

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

- (a) Yes. The exercise activity will be conducted over a three week period commencing on 17 March 2004 and concluding on 7 April 2004. The key field exercise component of *Mercury 04* is from 22 to 26 March 2004.
- (b) 17 March 2004 – Investigation discussion exercise in Melbourne
18 March 2004 – Critical infrastructure protection discussion exercise in Darwin
19 March 2004 – Tactical exercise requiring a response to a chemical threat in Hobart.
22-26 March 2004 – Major field deployment exercises in the Northern Territory, Tasmania, South Australia and Victoria, and Australian Government coordination in Canberra.
7 April 2004 – Coronial discussion exercise in Melbourne.
- (c) \$1.7 million has been budgeted for the exercise. This covers direct costs incurred by the States and Territory participating in the National Counter-Terrorism Committee endorsed exercise. The budget does not include salaries of the exercise participants nor does it include the operating costs of Australian Government agencies as they are required to absorb the exercise costs.
- (d) Attorney – General's Department, including the Protective Security Coordination Centre and Emergency Management Australia

Australian Federal Police, including Australian Bomb Data Centre and Australian Protective Services
Australian Security Intelligence Organisation
Australian Customs Service
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs
Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources

Department of Transport and Regional Services
Department of Health and Ageing
Department of Defence
Defence Intelligence Organisation
Defence Science and Technology Organisation
Geoscience Australia

The first ministers departments and police and emergency services of the Northern Territory, Tasmania, South Australia and Victoria. The police and emergency services of New South Wales, Queensland, the Australian Capital Territory and Western Australia are providing personnel to help manage the exercise as well as evaluate the performance of participating agencies.

The Prime Minister and other members of the National Security Committee of Cabinet, and the Ministers for Justice and Customs, Health and Ageing and Industry, Tourism and Resources.

The Governor-General.

The Premiers and relevant ministers of Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania, and the Chief Minister and relevant ministers of the Northern Territory.

- (e) The aim of Mercury 04 is to validate the national counter-terrorism arrangements, including the National Counter-Terrorism Plan, the National Counter-Terrorism Handbook and relevant State/Territory agency-specific plans.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Output 2.4

Question No. 137

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 16 February 2004

- (a) Has the further independent review of Australia's national counter-terrorism capability commenced?
- (b) If not, when is it due to commence?
- (c) Who is conducting the review?
- (d) How were they selected?
- (e) What is the budgeted cost of the review?
- (f) When is the report due?

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

- (a) Yes.
- (b) N/A – the review commenced in December 2003.
- (c) The review is being conducted by Mr Rein Mere of The RM Company.
- (d) Given the specialist nature of the review a restricted tender process was considered the most appropriate process for selection. Members of the National Counter-Terrorism Committee (NCTC) nominated six consultancy firms they considered had the skill and expertise to undertake the review. An NCTC steering group chaired by the Protective Security Coordination Centre and comprising representatives from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and two jurisdictions (Victoria Police and Queensland Premier's Department) was established to make the selection and oversight the review.

Tender responses were received from the six consultants approached. Interviews were conducted with four of the consultants. The RM Company was selected on the basis of the tender response, discussion put forward at interview and demonstrated knowledge of the counter-terrorism capability and the NCTC environment.

- (e) The cost is expected to be approximately \$160,000 including travel and expenses.
- (f) A draft report is expected to be presented to the NCTC Executive Committee meeting in late April 2004. The final report is expected to be presented to the NCTC meeting in May 2004.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Output 2.4

Question No. 138

Senator Ludwig tabled the following question at the hearing on 16 February

(a) With which other watch offices and crisis coordination centres associated with Commonwealth agencies do you have a working relationship (either in Canberra or elsewhere?)

(b) How do you manage your relationship with those watch offices and centres? (eg Memoranda of Understanding?)

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

(a) The PSCC Watch Office communicates with operational centres in the Australian Customs Service, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Department of Transport and Regional Services, the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation, the Australian Federal Police including the Australian Protective Service, Parliament House Security, The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Emergency Management Australia, the Department of Defence including the Australian Defence Forces, the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, the Department of Health and Aging and State and Territory Premiers Departments and law enforcement agencies.

There are 13 relevant Watch Offices or operational centres operating across the Australian Government on a 24 hour, seven day a week basis. The PSCC Watch Offices liaises with them as necessary. They are as follows:

24 Hour 7 Day Operation	Function
Protective Security Coordination Centre, Attorney-General's Department	Whole of Government coordination of national counter terrorism arrangements.
Australian Security Intelligence Organisation	Monitors, collects, analyses, and disseminates intelligence related to roles and functions including counter terrorism.
National Threat Assessment Centre	Centralised threat assessment
Australian Secret Intelligence Service	International Responsibilities
Defence Signals Directorate	Highly Classified signals intelligence.
Defence Imagery Geospatial Organisation	Imagery and Geospatial Information
Australian Defence Force Intelligence Centre	Organic to the Defence Intelligence Organisation

Australian Defence Force Command Centre	Organic to Australian Defence Headquarters
Headquarters Australian Theatre	Theatre (Operations) Command
Australian Theatre Joint Intelligence Centre	Intelligence Support to Operations Command
Maritime Command Centre	Naval Operations Centre
Headquarters Special Operations Command	Support to Special Operations Command
National Surveillance Centre	Coastwatch Operations
Australian Maritime Safety Authority	Surveillance and response to civil air and maritime search and rescue operations.

(b) On 5 April 2003, the Prime Minister and State and Territory Leaders agreed that a new national framework was needed to meet the new challenges of combating terrorism. The Leaders also reaffirmed the importance of effective cooperation between the jurisdictions and the need to build on existing arrangements in adding elements that would respond quickly and effectively to these challenges. On 24 October 2002 the Inter-Governmental Agreement on Australia's National Counter-Terrorism Arrangements was signed by the Prime Minister and all premiers and chief ministers at a special leaders' meeting.

Following the agreement, formal processes were agreed upon including the details of governance for the National Counter-Terrorism Committee.

Paragraph 2.6 (b) of the agreement stated "significantly upgrade the central coordination capability so that operational arms of the Commonwealth, States and Territories can obtain information and strategic advice to respond rapidly and effectively.

On 11 June 2003, The National Counter-Terrorism Plan (NCTP) was released detailing Australia's high-level strategy in preventing and dealing with, acts of terrorism in Australia and its territories. It is the primary document on Australia's national counter-terrorism policy and arrangements. The NCTP is supported by documentation, including a handbook that sets out the procedures, structures and coordination arrangements necessary to ensure the prevention, response, investigation and management of the consequences of terrorism on a national basis.

The PSCC coordinates a whole-of-government approach by bringing together representatives of those agencies involved in the national crisis management arrangements. The National Counter-Terrorism Plan identifies the coordinating role that the PSCC Watch Office has in relation to a terrorist situation or an act of politically motivated violence. In order to comply with the NCTP the PSCC Watch Office maintains a 24/7 liaison with the above mentioned agencies. In doing so, swift coordination of response is enhanced in the prevention, response, investigation and response of an act of terrorism or protective security incident.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Output 2.5

Question No 139

Senator Ludwig asked the following questions at the hearing on 16 February 2004

Integration of the APS and the AFP

At page 133 of the Annual Report you noted that you were conducting an audit of the performance of the APS in relation to diplomatic and consular security.

- a) Has that audit been conducted? If not, when will it be concluded?
- b) Who carried it out?
- c) What were the findings?
- d) What action(s) have been taken in response?
- e) Is the PSCC being consulted on the integration of the APS into the AFP?
- f) Who else has been consulted?
- g) When will the consultation process be concluded?
- h) Will a new MoU be required when the APS ceases to exist as a separate agency?
- i) Is that MoU under development? When will it be completed?
- j) In addition to the MoU between the APS and the PSCC, is there a service agreement (or similar) governing the purchase of APS services? Will a new service agreement similarly be required?
- k) Have those agreements been drafted?
- l) When will negotiations be conducted?

What is the timeframe for completion of the negotiation of terms for the agreement?

The answer to the honourable senator's questions are as follows:

a) Has that audit been conducted? If not, when will it be concluded?

The audit referred to in the annual report is an internal process carried out annually by staff of the Protective Security Coordination Centre (PSCC). The audit has been completed.

b) Who carried it out?

Two officers of the PSCC conducted the audit with the assistance of the APS/PSCC Client Manager.

c) What were the findings?

The audit found that the APS continues to provide a professional guarding service. Some problems in service delivery were noted, however, this was understandable considering the additional resource demands placed upon the APS as a result of the security environment existing after the Bali bombings.

d) What action(s) have been taken in response?

The audit report has been sent to APS senior management for action on the recommendations made

e) Is the PSCC being consulted on the integration of the APS into the AFP?

Yes. The PSCC has been kept abreast of developments throughout the integration process.

f) Who else has been consulted?

A wide range of APS clients and partner agencies have been consulted and briefed on the integration process.

g) When will the consultation process be concluded?

The consultation process is ongoing.

h) Will a new MoU be required when the APS ceases to exist as a separate agency?

The Government has determined that the current commercial nature of the APS operation will continue. The existing MOU between the PSCC and APS is renewed annually. It is due to be renewed on 1 July 2004. Any changes required due to integration will be considered in the drafting of the new document.

i) Is that MoU under development? When will it be completed?

The APS and PSCC have commenced negotiations on the new MoU. It is anticipated that it will be completed by 1 July 2004.

j) In addition to the MoU between the APS and the PSCC, is there a service agreement (or similar) governing the purchase of APS services? Will a new service agreement similarly be required?

There are no other service agreements (or similar) governing the purchase of APS services by the PSCC.

k) Have those agreements been drafted?

Not applicable.

l) When will negotiations be conducted?

See i) and j) above.

The timeframes for negotiation are outlined above.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Output 2.1

Question No. 140

Senator Mc Lucas asked the following question at the hearing on 16 February 2004:

Asked the Department of Health and Ageing about 'addicts turning to stolen medications', which was redirected to the Attorney-General's Department:

A survey last year by the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre found that injecting drug users are increasingly turning to pharmaceuticals such as OxyContin, Valium and Ritalin, especially in areas where heroin is in short supply.

- (a) What is known about the rates of theft of such drugs?
- (b) Are these thefts generally from warehouses or pharmacies?
- (c) What is known about the use of prescriptions to obtain such drugs?

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

The illicit use of pharmaceutical drugs concerns both health and law enforcement authorities, however the theft of pharmaceuticals is generally a State and Territory policing matter. Accordingly, the Attorney-General's Department's ability to comment on theft and illicit use of pharmaceuticals such as OxyContin, Valium and Ritalin is limited.

The Australian Federal Police (AFP) only records such thefts that take place in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) and are reported to ACT Policing. These statistics would be difficult to extract from the AFP's PROMIS database as they would be recorded as general theft offences (theft of pharmaceuticals is not a separate offence). Accordingly, the Australian Government is not able to provide data on the thefts of pharmaceuticals, or places where such thefts may have occurred.

The Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS) 2003 Report notes that injecting drug users injected pharmaceutical drugs such as morphine (mainly in Tasmania and the Northern Territory), benzodiazepines and pharmaceutical stimulants. The Report recommends further work is done to determine where and how injecting drug users access the pharmaceuticals they are using.

The Australian Government has responsibility, through the Health Insurance Commission (HIC) for administering the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS). There are a number of initiatives being administered by the HIC that are aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the PBS. Both OxyContin and Valium (Diazepam) are subsidised by the Government under the PBS, whereas Ritalin is not. Separate to the PBS, there is a range of state and territory based legislation imposing additional requirements relating to obtaining these medications by prescription. The HIC has no role in administering state and territory legislation.

The Attorney-General's Department has overall responsibility for the National Working Group on the Diversion of Precursor Chemicals, which seeks to facilitate a national approach to prevent the diversion of chemicals (including pharmaceuticals) used in the manufacture of illicit drugs. OxyContin, Valium and Ritalin are not primary precursor chemicals used in the production of illicit drugs. For this reason, these products are not the focus of the National Working Group on the Diversion of Precursor Chemicals, coordinated by the Attorney-General's Department.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 141

Senator Bishop tabled the following question on notice:

Could you provide a list of all administered programmes in the Australian Customs Service, including:

- A description of the programme;
- number of people directly receiving funds/assistance under the programme;
- a breakdown on those receiving funds/assistance under the programme by electorate;
- the policy objective of the programme;
- whether the programme is ongoing;
- the funding in each financial year of the forward estimates for the programme (with a breakdown of administered and departmental expenses), including:
 - how much funding was allocated for the programme;
 - how much is committed to the programme; and
 - how much is unspent.
- indication of whether an evaluation of the programme effectiveness has been conducted:
 - if so, when that evaluation occurred; and
 - if so, the conclusion of that evaluation.

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

Australian Customs Service has no administered programmes, with the exception of a government contribution to the World Trade Organisation, of \$265,000 per annum 2002-2003

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 142

Senator Bishop tabled the following question on notice:

How many Senior Executive Officers (or equivalent) were employed in the Australian Customs Service in 1996–97, 1997–98, 1998–99, 1999–00, 2000–01, 2001–02, 2002–03, 2003–04.

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

The number of SES employees in Customs during the period 1996/97 to 2002/03 as at 30 June in each respective year is as follows:

1996/97	33
1997/98	34
1998/99	30
1999/2000	31
2000/01	31
2001/02	33
2002/03	31

The number of SES employees in Customs as at 16 February 2004 was:

2003/04	32
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SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 143

Senator Bishop tabled the following question on notice:

What was the base and top (including performance pay) wages of APS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (or equivalent), Executive Level 1 and 2 (or equivalent), and SES band 1, band 2 and band 3 (or equivalent) in the Australian Customs Service in 1996–97, 1997–98, 1998–9, 1999–00, 2000–01, 2001–02, 2002–03, 2003–04

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

See Attachment A

		1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
Customs Level 1	Low	\$27,584	\$28,412	\$29,548	\$30,287	\$31,044	\$32,286	\$33,577	\$34,920
	High	\$33,929	\$34,947	\$36,345	\$37,254	\$38,185	\$39,712	\$41,300	\$42,952
Customs Level 2	Low	\$35,048	\$36,099	\$37,543	\$37,254	\$38,185	\$39,712	\$41,300	\$42,952
	High	\$41,427	\$42,670	\$44,377	\$45,486	\$46,623	\$46,655	\$48,521	\$50,462
Customs Level 3	Low	\$41,430	\$40,286	\$41,897	\$43,767	\$44,861	\$46,655	\$48,521	\$50,462
	High	\$47,591	\$49,019	\$50,980	\$52,254	\$53,560	\$55,702	\$57,930	\$60,247
Customs Level 4	Low	\$53,112	\$54,705	\$56,893	\$55,350	\$56,734	\$60,251	\$62,661	\$65,167
	High	\$57,351	\$59,072	\$61,435	\$62,971	\$64,545	\$68,375	\$71,110	\$73,954
Customs Level 5	Low	\$61,257	\$63,095	\$65,619	\$62,971	\$64,545	\$68,375	\$71,110	\$73,954
	High	\$71,771	\$73,924	\$76,881	\$78,803	\$80,773	\$84,004	\$87,364	\$90,859
SES	Low	\$66,228	\$70,275	\$72,400	\$78,300	\$80,300	\$87,000	\$90,500	\$94,200
	High	\$122,136	\$125,801	\$129,600	\$138,700	\$142,200	\$153,900	\$160,100	\$166,600

- All dates are as at 30/06 of the respective year, with the exception of 2003/04, which is at 01/01/04.
- Non-SES salary ranges include minimum and maximum salaries under the APS Enterprise Agreement or the Customs Certified Agreement, as applicable at the time.
- SES salary ranges relate to those salary figures used by Customs when determining total remuneration packages for employees at SES Bands 1, 2 and 3.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 144

Senator Bishop tabled the following question on notice:

What was the average salary for an SES (or equivalent) in the Australian Customs Service in 1996–97, 1997–98, 1998–99, 1999–00, 2000–01, 2001–02, 2002–03, 2003–04.

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

The average salary for SES employees from 1996 to 2004 is as follows:

1996/97	\$87,019
1997/98	\$88,996
1998/99	\$96,482
1999/2000	\$98,576
2000/01	\$102,835
2001/02	\$111,281
2002/03	\$115,703
2003/04	\$119,088

All dates are as at 30/06 of the respective year, with the exception of 2003/04, which is at 01/01/04.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 145

Senator Bishop asked the following question at the hearing on 16 February 2004:

How many staff had mobile phones issued by the Australian Customs Service in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 to date.

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

1996 – 1997 – Prior to Customs outsourcing Information Technology services in March 1998 there was no central repository containing Customs wide information regarding mobile phones. All phones were purchased separately by individual areas.

1997 – 1998 – Prior to Customs outsourcing Information Technology services in March 1998 there was no central repository containing Customs wide information regarding mobile phones. All phones were purchased separately by individual areas.

1998 – 1999 – 621

1999 – 2000 – 701

2001 – 2002 – 850

2002 – 2003 – 871

2003 – 2004 – 942

It should be noted that the data available on number of phones for the periods 2002 – 2003 and 2003 – 2004 are based on an average derived from billing data only, as Customs made a corporate decision to purchase mobile phones for staff on a one-off cost basis. This data does not include the small number of mobile phones within Customs that do not make any calls.

Data on mobile phone call cost is contained in Senate Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee question no. 146

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 146

Senator Bishop asked the following question at the hearing on 16 February 2004:

What was the total mobile phone bill for the Australian Customs Service in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 to date

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

1996 – 1997 – Prior to Customs outsourcing Information Technology services in March 1998 there was no central repository containing Customs wide information regarding mobile phones. All phones were purchased separately by individual areas.

1997 – 1998 – Prior to Customs outsourcing Information Technology services in March 1998 there was no central repository containing Customs wide information regarding mobile phones. All phones were purchased separately by individual areas.

1998 – 1999 – Total Cost - \$373,382.00

1999- 2000 – Total Cost - \$542,826.00

2000 – 2001 – Total Cost - \$545,849.00

2001 – 2002 – Total Cost - \$392,216.00

2002 – 2003 – Total Cost - \$612,667.00

2003 – 2004 – Total Cost - \$352,425.00

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 147

Senator Bishop asked the following questions at the hearing on 16 February 2004:

How many SES (or equivalent) were issued with cars in the Australian Customs Service in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04;

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

1996/97	Data unavailable
1997/98	29
1998/99	30
1999/2000	27
2000/01	28
2001/02	31
2002/03	31
2003/04	30

All figures are as at 31 December 2003.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 148

Senator Bishop tabled the following question on notice:

- a) Could you please list all 'management retreats/training' conducted by the Australian Customs Service which were attended by employees during 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 to date.
- b) For such meetings held off-site (from the Australian Customs Service), could you please indicate:
 - a) where (location and hotel) and when they were held;
 - b) how much was spent in total;
 - c) how much was spent on accommodation;
 - d) how much was spent on food;
 - e) how much was spent alcohol/drinks; and
 - f) how much was spent on transport.

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

- a) Customs does not have a centralised repository for training records. However, a search of financial records reveals the following list of management retreats/management training during 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 to date. These are usually held off site but in proximity to the Customs House in capital cities, where possible. Customs accommodation is generally not able to host larger scale training so off site venues are necessary.

FY	Location	Venue	Dates
2000-2001	Brisbane	Powerhouse Boutique Hotel	20-Jul-00
2000-2001	Beaudesert (Qld)	Kooralbyn Conference Centre	12-13 Oct 00
2000-2001	Yungaburra (Qld)	Genanzanno Centre	12-17 Nov 00
2000-2001	Strath Creek (Vic)	Flowerdale Estate Conference Centre	28-29 Nov 00
2000-2001	Canberra	AFP College	4-5 Dec 00
2000-2001	Bunbury (WA)	Sanctuary Hotel	27-29 Mar 01
2000-2001	Tranquil Park (Qld)	Tranquil Park	Apr-01
2000-2001	Clear Mountain (Qld)	Clear Mountain	May-01
2000-2001	Kalorama (Vic)	Country Place Conference Centre	10-11 May 01
2000-2001	Canberra	AFP College	20-21 May
2000-2001	Canberra	University of Canberra	24-29 Jun 01
2001-2002	Brisbane	Clear Mountain Health & Conference Centre	29-30 Oct 01
2001-2002	Werribee (Vic)	The Mansion	15-16 Nov 01
2001-2002	Canberra	Australian National University	20-21 Nov 01
2001-2002	Jamberoo (NSW)	Jamberoo Valley Lodge	Feb-02
2001-2002	Brighton (NSW)	Novotel Hotel	Apr-02
2001-2002	Rowland Flat (SA)	Novotel Hotel	28-30 Apr 02
2001-2002	Canberra	National Convention Centre	13-14 May 02
2001-2002	Werribee (Vic)	The Mansion	30-31 May 02
2001-2002	Brisbane	Riverside Receptions	5-7 Jun 2002
2001-2002	Bunbury (WA)	Sanctuary Hotel	11-13 Jun 02
2001-2002	Brisbane	Riverside Receptions	12-14 Jun 02
2001-2002	Kakadu (NT)	Aurora Kakadu Resort	23-28 Jun 02
2001-2002	Sydney	Merchant Court Hotel	Jul-02

2002-2003	Brighton (NSW)	Novotel Hotel	Jul-02
2002-2003	Brisbane	Riverside Receptions	27-29 Aug 02
2002-2003	Kakadu (NT)	Aurora Kakadu Resort	1-6 Sep 02
2002-2003	Brisbane	Riverside Receptions	10-12 Sep 02
2002-2003	Brisbane	Riverside Receptions	15-17 Oct 02
2002-2003	Brisbane	Powerhouse Boutique Hotel	24-25 Oct 02
2002-2003	Chirnside Park (Vic)	Sebel Lodge	14-15 Nov 02
2002-2003	Canberra	National Convention Centre	4 Dec 02
2002-2003	Chirnside Park (Vic)	Sebel Lodge	10-11 Apr 03
2002-2003	Brisbane	Powerhouse Boutique Hotel	29-Apr 03
2002-2003	Cronulla (NSW)	Rydges Hotel	May-03
2002-2003	Canberra	National Convention Centre	13-14 May 03
2002-2003	Brisbane	Powerhouse Clarion Hotel	13-15 May 03
2002-2003	Brisbane	Novotel Hotel	20-May 03
2002-2003	Coffs Harbour (NSW)	Novotel Opel Cove	22-23 May 03
2002-2003	Kakadu (NT)	Aurora Kakadu Resort	25-30 May 03
2002-2003	Brisbane	Powerhouse Clarion Hotel	10-12 Jun 03
2003-2004	Mindarie (WA)	Waterfront	1-3 Jul 03
2003-2004	Lake Bennett (NT)	Lake Bennett Wilderness Resort	8-10 Jul 03
2003-2004	Brisbane	Powerhouse Clarion Hotel	22-24 Jul 03
2003-2004	Stirling (SA)	Mt Lofty House	13-15 Aug 03
2003-2004	Brisbane	Powerhouse Clarion Hotel	16-18 Sep 03
2003-2004	Brighton (NSW)	Novotel Hotel	Oct-03
2003-2004	Brisbane	Powerhouse Clarion Hotel	14-16 Oct 03
2003-2004	Brisbane	Riverview Hotel	11-Nov-03
2003-2004	Canberra	Hyatt Hotel	24-25 Nov 03
2003-2004	Brisbane	Christie Corporate Centre	24-26 Nov 03
2003-2004	Brighton (NSW)	Novotel Hotel	18-Dec-03

Management Training conducted on Customs premises

2000-2001	Port Pirie (SA)	Customs House	26-27 May 01
2002-2003	Queensland	Customs on-site	23-Jun-03
2003-2004	Queensland	Customs on-site	6-Aug-03
2003-2004	Queensland	Customs on-site	11-Sep-03
2003-2004	Queensland	Customs on-site	30-Oct-03
2003-2004	Queensland	Customs on-site	26-Nov-03

b) For such meetings held off-site, costs are as follows

FY	how much was spent in total; (b)	how much was spent on accommodation * (c)	how much was spent on food * (d)	how much was spent on beverages * (e)	how much was spent on transport (f)
2000-2001	139472	57838	5590	1627	110
2001-2002	162026	63761	24209	5712	2682
2002-2003	162434	53366	21361	2363	5678
2003-2004	75943	16520	6313	1935	295
Total	539874	191484	57473	11637	8766

* Costs of food, accommodation and beverages are sometimes included in the total venue costs and were not itemised separately. Accommodation is not always required for attendance at conferences.

Note 1 Total Cost (b) reflects costs of accommodation (c), food (d), beverages (e), transport (f) and others costs associated with running the course/retreat such as venue hire and consultancy fees.

Note 2 A full set of costs for ACT (includes Central Office) is only available for 2003-2004. Information for previous years provided where identified.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 149

Senator Bishop tabled the following question on notice:

How many overseas trips were taken by employees in your agency/department in 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 to date?

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

The number of overseas trips by staff of the Australian Customs Service in each year has been as follows:

Year	Number
1996-97	146
1997-98	181
1998-99	192
1999-00	189
2000-01	213
2001-02	182
2002-03	173
2003-04	117