SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 116

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 17 February 2006:

a) How many staff were vetted by Customs for security clearance for each year in 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 (to date)?

b) How many staff were vetted for security clearance by a vetting service provider for each year in 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-2006 (to date)?

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

a) The number of staff who were vetted by Customs for security clearance were :-

- 2003-04 1330
- 2004-05 1774
- 2005-06 (to 22 Feb 2006) 1451

b) No staff were fully vetted by vetting service providers. Vetting service providers were used to undertake the initial part of the security clearance assessment function for the number of staff indicated below, but Customs specific checks and clearance decisions are, in all cases, processed and completed by Customs.

- 2003-04 176
- 2004-05 181
- 2005-06 (to 22 Feb 2006) 218