

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

**Output 2.4**

**Question No. 56**

**Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 14 February 2006:**

Who came up the 1800 123 400 number?

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

The National Security Hotline was established in December 2002. At that time, extensive consultation took place between the Attorney-General's Department and Telstra.

During this consultation, the Attorney-General's Department requested an easily accessible, toll free telephone number with national coverage. Telstra advised that the number should commence with 1800 and consist of 10 digits.

Several available 1800 numbers were recommended by Telstra and considered. The number chosen by the Attorney-General's Department consisted of the consecutive numbers 1234, with 00 added to complete the 10 digit requirement.