

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 100

Senator Barnett asked the following question at the hearing on 23 February 2009:

Cuts to AFP overtime in the Sydney office have resulted in staff being sent home when allocated hours have been exhausted,

- a) what happens to the investigative work that these staff members have been carrying out when they have been sent home,
- b) do investigations cease for two weeks when staff have been stood down and sent home,
- c) which other offices has this affected, and
- d) how many staff members are routinely being stood down due to exhausting their allocated man hours?

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

Staff are not routinely stood down or sent home when allocated hours have been exhausted.

Investigations do not cease for two weeks and are not affected as a result of the application of the *AFP Collective Agreement 2007 - 2011*. Overtime is available to be utilised in accordance with AFP operational priorities which are managed within the provisions of the *AFP Collective Agreement 2007 - 2011*.

The collective agreement provides a core number of hours to be worked and a composite payment to enable flexibility in work practice to assist in the management of resources and the management of investigations. There is a provision in the collective agreement for overtime payments to be paid for extra hours worked outside of the core number of hours.

AFP members in all offices including Sydney Office continue to work overtime when required based on operational requirements and priorities.