

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

**Question No. 99**

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

In relation to AFP redundancies:

- a) what is the net result of the promised additional 500 AFP officers versus redundancies resulting from the imposed efficiency dividends,
- b) have more AFP officers taken redundancies than have been recruited,
- c) have there been further redundancies since December 2008, if so,
- d) where have these redundancies come from, and
- e) what investigations had the officers been working on?

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

The AFP has a budget of \$191.9 million over the next five years commencing 2008-09 to enhance the AFP core investigative capability. This will take the form of 500 additional sworn police investigators. The increase will be achieved in the following phases:

- 30 officers in 2008/2009;
- 30 officers in 2009/2010;
- 40 officers in 2010/2011;
- 200 officers in 2011/2012; and
- 200 officers in 2012/2013.

Recruitment planning and activity in relation to the first thirty officers is well advanced and this year's commitment will be met.

As a part of the normal human resources management of the AFP, along with many government agencies, a round of voluntary redundancies was offered during 2008. This has not affected the implementation of the 500 additional officer initiative as only sixteen investigators accepted a voluntary redundancy as part of the 2008 exercise.

In contrast, between July 2007 and March 2009, there has been a growth in total AFP staffing numbers of approximately 4%, with growth in sworn personnel of approximately 13%. This growth is despite the voluntary redundancy exercise that was conducted in 2008.

The AFP will continue to use voluntary redundancies as part of its normal human resource management practices. Outside of the 2008 exercise there have been nine voluntary redundancies realised since December 2008 as part of normal ongoing human resource management. Of these eight were from within the Protection portfolio and one from within the International portfolio. No investigations have been impacted by these redundancies.