

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 58

Senator Brandis asked the following question at the hearing on 8 February 2010:

- a) Since last Estimates (19 October 2009), how have the numbers of the People Smuggling Strike Team on Christmas Island changed?
- b) What were the numbers in the last two financial years?

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

a) At the Senate Estimates hearing on 19 October 2009 the Commissioner, Australian Federal Police (AFP) advised the Committee that there were six members from the People Smuggling Strike Team (PSST) deployed to Christmas Island.

At the Senate Estimates hearing of 8 February 2010 the Deputy Commissioner Operations, AFP, stated that there were seventeen members on Christmas Island. This figure included PSST members and members performing a community policing role.

As at 8 February 2010 there were nine members from the PSST deployed to Christmas Island.

b) As at 1 July 2008 there were no members from the PSST deployed to Christmas Island.

As at 1 July 2009 there were ten members from the PSST deployed to Christmas Island.