

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 50

Senator Xenophon asked the following question at the hearing on 12 February 2013:

Can the AFP provide a figure in dollar terms of the assets that have been reclaimed by the Criminal Assets Confiscation Taskforce?

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

In January 2011, the Criminal Assets Confiscation Taskforce (CACT) commenced operations, bringing together the Australian Federal Police, Australian Taxation Office and Australian Crime Commission.

In the 2010/11 financial year, the CACT contributed to assets to the value of \$41.05 million being restrained.

In the 2011/12 financial year, the CACT restrained assets to the value of \$97.4 million, with a further \$2.42 million restrained under the *Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act 1987*.

As at 31 January 2013, the CACT has restrained assets to the value of \$25 million for the 2012/13 financial year.

After restraint, further legal proceedings are required under the Proceeds of Crime Act, the ultimate aim of which is to have the property forfeited to the Commonwealth. Considerable time can elapse between restraint and forfeiture of assets. The majority of CACT restraint action is still awaiting forfeiture.