

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

**Output 2.2**

**Question No. 77**

**Senator Bolkus asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2004:**

Mr Habib seems to be of the view that his family is dead. In those circumstances would we consider asking the US authorities to allow Mrs Habib to visit her husband?

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

The Australian Embassy in Washington has been asked to raise the matter of a visit by Mrs Habib to her husband with United States authorities and to request that the matter be given favourable consideration. Correspondence from Mrs Habib has been passed to her husband by Australian officials visiting Guantanamo Bay.

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**Output 2.2**

**Question No. 78**

**Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2004:**

In relation to the successful bid for funding areas of critical infrastructure protection (CIP):

- a) Provide a breakdown of the classification of the 13 additional positions (in Critical Infrastructure Protection branch)?
- b) Detail each position's perceived role and duties.
- c) Provide the cost each year of employing the additional staff.

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

- a) The CIP Branch was created in April 2003. The Branch was formed from an existing Section of five permanent positions (EL2, EL1, Legal Officer and 2xAPS6). A temporary Branch structure of ten staff was established incorporating the existing five permanent positions and five temporary positions (SES B1, EL2, Senior Legal Officer, APS6 and APS3).

As a result of the 2004-05 Budget initiatives, the CIP Branch is expanding to twenty three positions. The existing five temporary positions and the new thirteen additional positions will be filled as permanent positions.

The 13 additional positions in the Branch are:

- 1 x EL 2 position to head a Major Projects Section;
- 6 x EL 1 positions (2 in the Critical Infrastructure Policy Section, 1 in the National Information Infrastructure Section) and 3 in the Major Projects Section);
- 3 x APS 6 positions (2 in the Critical Infrastructure Policy Section and 1 in the Major Projects Section);
- 2 x APS 5 positions (1 in the Critical Infrastructure Policy Section and 1 in the Major Projects Section); and
- 1 x APS 4 position in the Critical Infrastructure Policy Section.

- b) The perceived role and duties for each of the new CIP Branch positions is as follow:

**CI Policy Section**

Policy team leader (EL1) will provide overview and coordination of government support to sectors by lead agencies and management of staff for AGD desk officers support to AGD managed sectors

2 x Policy Desk Officers (2 x APS6) will provide policy advice to Water, Financial Services and Iconic & Public Buildings sector groups and will support other lead agency desk officers.

Trusted Information Sharing Network (TISN) Secretariat Team leader (EL1) will manage the secretariat support to the numerous meetings, conferences, seminars, bilateral/multilateral meetings the CIP Branch conduct within the TISN  
2 x Secretariat Officers (1xAPS5, 1xAPS4) will provide secretariat support to meetings as required.

### **NII Section**

NII Projects team leader (EL1) will manage the e-security and cyber specific projects such as the Australian Government engagement of AusCERT's alerts and warning system, CERT capability building program through APEC, and support to AFP's High Tech Crime Unit.

**Major Projects Section Head** (EL2) will manage the two major projects of Computer Network Vulnerability Assessment (CNVA) and Modelling and Analysis.

CNVA team leader (EL1) will lead the development of a technical capability to test for vulnerabilities within critical computer networks in the private critical infrastructure and manage the contractual relationship with specialist contractors performing the work on behalf of the private sector companies.

DSD Liaison Officer (EL1) will ensure the CNVA work being done within DSD on testing of government computer networks is consistent with and complementary to the work AGD is doing in the private sector.

CNVA Officer (APS5) will support the CNVA team leader in CNVA projects management.

Modelling and Analysis team leader (EL1) will lead the development of a modelling and analysis capability to test the interdependencies within the TISN sectors by the use of simulation. There is currently work being done within several agencies on developing geospatial databases for specific purposes. This position will draw together the current work to minimise duplication and pool knowledge to produce a modelling and analysis capability that will be the basis to meet all user requirements.

Modelling and Analysis Officer (APS6) will support the modelling and analysis team leader in this project.

- c) The cost each year of employing the additional 13 staff is:

2004 - 2005	\$2.056 m
2005 - 2006	\$2.103 m
2006 - 2007	\$2.152 m
2007 - 2008	\$2.201 m

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**Output 2.2**

**Question No. 79**

**Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2004:**

In relation to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade White Paper on Terrorism:

- a) Provide the date that comments on the synopsis and draft were to be returned to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
- b) Who within the Department was consulted regarding making comments on either the draft or the synopsis?

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

The White Paper is still currently being progressed and consultation is ongoing between various areas within the Department and the Department of Foreign Affairs.

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**Output 2.4**

**Question No. 80**

**Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May:**

In relation to the National Security Hotline:

- a) How has (the staffing make up of 30 casual operators, working on average 20-25hrs/week, and 11 full time staff) changed over the last 12 months?
- b) Are there any reductions planned in the number of staff or hours and the number of casuals?
- c) Are the difficulties, experienced by the Hotline telephone service, caused by the number of lines coming in?

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

- a) Since the inception of the NSH on 27 December 2002, the numbers have been adjusted from 98 casual operators to the current number of 30 casual operators. There are 11 full time staff in support of the NSH.
- b) Staff numbers and the hours worked are constantly reviewed against call numbers. Staffing requirements, including roster sizes are adjusted as necessary to provide the best fit. This can be either through adjusting shift lengths or operator numbers.
- c) The only known difficulty to the NSH telephone line occurred on Wednesday 19 May 2004. Investigation of the fault by both AGD and Telstra has confirmed a system failure at the Telstra side. This failure was not caused by the number of lines coming into the NSH.

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**Output 2.4**

**Question No. 81**

**Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2004:**

In relation to counter-terrorism exercises planned for the calendar year:

Provide a timetable of exercises.

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

Multi-jurisdictional exercise (MJEX) *Mercury 04* was conducted over a three week period in March 2004. *Mercury 04* was designed to exercise and validate strategic-level decision-making, coordination and interoperability. The key field exercise component of *Mercury 04* was from 22 to 26 March 2004. The MJEX was conducted in Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania, Northern Territory and Canberra.

Tactical Response Exercise (TACREX) *Bold Endeavour 2*, was conducted in the Australian Capital Territory in May 2004. It was a tactical-level counter-terrorism exercise designed for participation up to and including the elements normally deployed at the Police Forward Command Post level.

Investigation and Consequence Management Exercise (ICMEX) *Explorer* was conducted in New South Wales in May 2004 to test the abilities of emergency services and security agencies to respond to a terrorist attack on a city office building. The exercise was designed to evaluate crisis and consequence management in a contemporary threat scenario involving the bombing of a building in the Sydney CBD.

Three other counter-terrorism exercises are planned for the remainder of the year. They are expected to be held between August and November 2004.