

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 78

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 23 May 2007:

- a) With regards to the investigation of alleged leaks by Federal agencies and departments:
- i) on average how many officers are assigned to investigate?
 - ii) what are the costs and hours for investigations?
 - iii) What is the average duration of an investigation?
 - iv) How many investigations are not proceeded with?

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

With respect to a)

- i) There is no average investigation model. The AFP allocates resources from an operational pool on a case-by-case basis according to the anticipated complexity and extent of any investigation.
- ii) During the period 1 June 2005 to 31 May 2007, the AFP attributed 7,918 hours which equates to \$891,390, to investigate this type of crime.
- iii) The extraction and compilation of this statistical data is a complex task and could not be conducted in the time available. The AFP will continue to extract and compile this data and provide a response as soon as possible
- iv) During the period 31 May 2005 to 13 June 2007, the AFP received 27 referrals involving allegations of unlawful disclosure. Of these, the AFP rejected three matters where an alternative investigative option was identified.