

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ORGANISATION

Question No. 18

Senator Trood asked the following question at the hearing on 26 May 2008:

What is the timeframe involved in the implementation of Recommendation 4 of the Street Report relating to the ASIO officer having direct information technology connectivity to ASIO systems?

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

Construction and accreditation of appropriate secure facilities to accommodate ASIO systems within the Joint Counter-Terrorism Teams will take some time. Significant progress has been made in Sydney regarding building the infrastructure required and it is anticipated that the work will be completed in early 2009.

The Australian Federal Police is currently assessing the scope of the work required in Melbourne but is awaiting relocation of the Australian Crime Commission.

In the meantime, ASIO officers attached to the Joint Counter-Terrorism Teams in Sydney and Melbourne are using deployable secure communications to connect directly to ASIO's Canberra Headquarters.