

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Sub Program 2.1.2

Question No. 29

Senator Fisher asked the following question at the hearing on 25 May 2009:

Provide details of the impact on staffing and funding for EMA following the restructure?

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

The restructure of EMA has brought together the previously separated elements of counter-terrorism and emergency management to address the need for whole of government integration and coordination for all hazards.

The restructure has provided for the development of an all hazards approach to disaster management through strengthened whole of government crisis coordination and management by the Attorney-General's Department (AGD) through EMA and the creation of two additional Divisions focussing on all hazards national security resilience policy and national security capability development.

By streamlining core functions, the capacity of EMA to respond to a range of disasters has been enhanced. There has been no loss of positions and no diminution of the operational skills and capacity of EMA as a result of the restructure.

The new EMA has 103 staff (counted as 'full time equivalents') and an operational budget of \$13.8 million. This funding is separate from the funding of the two additional Divisions.