SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 48

Senator Brandis asked the following question at the hearing on 26 May 2011:

Senator BRANDIS: Commissioner, are there any AFP offices that are closing in the near future?

Mr Negus: Yes, we are removing the resident agent from Broome, which is a one-person station, and we are returning that position to Perth in Western Australia, but again it is not an office per se; it is a one-person resident agent.

Senator BRANDIS: Is that the only one?

Mr Negus: No. I just wanted to double check so I could be certain about it.

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

The AFP confirms that the resident Agent position from Broome is returning to the Perth Office. In addition, the AFP is closing the Uniform Protection Station at Woomera.

The AFP commenced operations in the Woomera Prohibited Area in May 2008. In January 2011 the AFP was advised by the Department of Defence that, with effect from 31 May 2011, there was no longer a requirement for services at the Woomera Prohibited Area.

All AFP staff and resources will have been withdrawn from the Station by 30 June 2011.