

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

Question No. 53

Senator Ludlam asked the following question at the hearing on 30 May 2013:

Senator LUDLAM: What would the funding and staffing allocations for the agency look like if we compared your budget with the financial year 2001?

Mr Irvine: I would have to get that figure; I do not have that figure for you—

Senator LUDLAM: Is it in the magnitude of a four- or fivefold expansion?

Mr Irvine: I have figures back to 2005-06.

Senator LUDLAM: That will do for a baseline for the purposes of the discussion.

Mr Irvine: It was roughly \$175 million at that time.

Senator LUDLAM: According to the discussion you just had with Senator Brandis, you are up to \$328 million now. Is that right?

Mr Irvine: For 2012-13 it is \$337 million.

Senator LUDLAM: It has roughly doubled. How about staff?

Ms Hartland: I only have the staffing figures back to 2007, but it was around 1,300 at that stage.

Senator LUDLAM: I do not wish to detain us here too much further, so I wonder if you would provide us with some figures on notice for 2001, because I suspect we will find that the order of magnitude increase is quite severely higher come 12 years later.

Mr Irvine: I am absolutely certain that that is the case, and it is entirely explicable in terms of the need of governments of the day to respond to a new and very substantial threat.

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

Financial Year	Average full time equivalent (FTE)	ASIO Departmental funding
2001-2002	574	\$64.152m
2002-2003	617	\$86.237m
2003-2004	703.5	\$99.047m
2004-2005	821	\$137.456m
2005-2006	931.5	\$174.845m
2006-2007	1118.5	\$227.617m
2007-2008	1310	\$291.460m
2008-2009	1486.5	\$352.653m
2009-2010	1599	\$405.518m
2010-2011	1641.5	\$344.883m
2011-2012	1702.5	\$328.124m
2012-2013	1741.8	\$337.243m