

SENATE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
FAMILY COURT OF AUSTRALIA
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Senator Kirk asked the following question at the hearing of 20 November 2002:

Provide a schedule of visits, including locations, by counsellors and mediators.

I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

The Family Court of Australia is a national court (except WA) and takes very seriously its responsibility to provide a high level of service to clients located outside the major metropolitan centres.

In 2002/2003, the following counselling circuits are being conducted throughout Australia:

| Location | Staff Time Circuits per annum | Duration per circuit | Total days p.a. |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Whyalla | 5 | 5 | 25 |
| Mt Gambier | 4 | 5 | 20 |
| Broken Hill | 3 | 5 | 15 |
| Berri | 1 | 5 | 5 |
| Batemans Bay | 12 | 1 | 12 |
| Bega | 12 | 1 | 12 |
| Wagga Wagga | 26 | 1 | 26 |

| | | | |
|-----------------|----|-----|------|
| Coffs Harbour | 8 | 5 | 40 |
| Tamworth | 6 | 4.5 | 27 |
| Taree | 5 | 4.5 | 22.5 |
| Pt Macquarie | 7 | 2 | 14 |
| | | | |
| Katherine | 8 | 4 | 32 |
| Tennant Creek | 7 | 2 | 14 |
| Pitlands | 8 | 4 | 32 |
| | | | |
| Devonport | 52 | 1 | 52 |
| | | | |
| Ballarat | 15 | 2 | 30 |
| Bendigo | 12 | 2 | 24 |
| Geelong | 50 | 1 | 50 |
| Mildura | 4 | 5 | 20 |
| Warrnambool | 5 | 3 | 15 |
| Shepparton | 12 | 3 | 36 |
| Wangaratta | 26 | 1 | 26 |
| Bairnsdale | 12 | 1 | 12 |
| Traralgon | 10 | 3 | 30 |
| Sale | 10 | 2 | 20 |
| | | | |
| Mackay | 8 | 3 | 24 |
| Atherton | 22 | 1 | 22 |
| Innisfail | 20 | 1 | 20 |
| Charters Towers | 12 | 1 | 12 |
| Ingham | 8 | 1 | 8 |
| Ayr | 8 | 1 | 8 |
| Bowen | 8 | 1 | 8 |

The Court has also introduced a comprehensive videoconferencing network to enable the delivery of enhanced services to clients, especially in rural and regional areas. This facility has been operating throughout Australia since June 2001.

SENATE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
AUSTRAC
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing of 20 November 2002:

With regard to the Proof of Identity Steering Committee:

- a. how often does it meet?
- b. is it considering any alternative models?
- c. has it developed any public discussion papers to identify how it is going to go about its work in identifying fraud?
- d. has it any estimates to date of the extent of identity fraud in Australia?

I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

- (a) Every 6 weeks
- (b) The work of the Committee has focused on ways of strengthening the current system. In particular, it has concentrated on ways of improving the integrity of identification documents.
- (c) No
- (d) The Committee currently relies on the figure in the Attorney-General's Department's report "Scoping Identity Fraud", September 2001, which estimates identity fraud at \$4billion. However, the Committee has commissioned a study by the Securities Industry Research Centre of Asia-Pacific into the cost and extent of identity fraud in Australia. The study is due for completion in June 2003.

SENATE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
AUSTRAC
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing of 20 November 2002:

Once completed, provide a copy of the analysis from the survey, being undertaken by the Proof of Identity Steering Committee, of private and public sector organisations into the types of frauds that they are seeing and the types of problems that they have with the current documentation.

I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

A copy will be provided to the Minister on completion.

SENATE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
AUSTRAC
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Senator [Name] asked the following question at the hearing of 20 November 2002:

Can you make the scoping paper on identity fraud prepared by the Attorney-General available to the committee?

I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

Q.42 Yes – the paper will be provided to members of the committee as soon as possible by the Attorney-General's Department.

SENATE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
AUSTRAC
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing of 20 November 2002:

What are the outcomes from your work with the Australian Taxation Office on the integrity of documents used for identification purposes?

I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

Work is being done with the Australian Taxation Office in the Proof of Identity Steering Committee including in relation to the integrity of identification documents and the Committee is yet to report.

SENATE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
AUSTRAC
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing of 20 November 2002:

Provide for each royal commission, including the Western Australian one, information relating to the number of times the system was accessed and the number of transaction reports or networks that have been accessed.

I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

The number of times each of the Royal Commissions accessed AUSTRAC's database, and transactional summaries are as follows:

Royal Commission into the Building and Construction Industry

Reports accessed on-line: 1,001
Reports downloaded from TES2000: 3,022
Reports disseminated by AUSTRAC: 749
Number of logons to TES2000: 64

Royal Commission into the HIH Insurance Group

Reports accessed on-line: 465
Reports downloaded from TES2000: 473
Reports disseminated by AUSTRAC 170
Number of logons to TES2000: 9

Royal Commission into the Western Australia Police

Reports accessed on-line: 4
Reports disseminated by AUSTRAC 13
Number of logons to TES2000: 8

SENATE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
AUSTRAC
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing of 20 November 2002:

Have you received requests from neighbours in the Asia-Pacific area for assistance in fighting not only terrorism but also money laundering, and have you offered your services?

I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

Yes, we have received a number of requests from neighbours in the Asia-Pacific region for assistance in fighting terrorism, money laundering and other major criminal activity. Requests for assistance come in a variety of forms. These include:

- a. Proposals to enter into Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) to facilitate exchanges of financial intelligence;
- b. The provision of training and technical assistance to foreign financial intelligence unit (FIU) staff in relation to the establishment of an FIU;
- c. The provision of training to foreign FIU staff in relation to general anti-money laundering (AML) practices, procedures, regulations, legislation and operational capabilities;
- d. Hosting numerous visits by overseas FIU and law enforcement agency delegations;
- e. Requests for support in relation to admission into membership of the Egmont Group;
- f. Requests for support in relation to admission into membership of the Asia-Pacific Group (APG) on Money Laundering;
- g. Requests for participation in workshops, seminars, conferences and training programs run by Asia Pacific governments;
- h. Requests for participation in Mutual Evaluations of AML practices in Asia Pacific countries.

AUSTRAC has offered its services in many cases and will continue to do so.

SENATE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
AUSTRAC
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing of 20 November 2002:

In respect of the Financial Action Task Force and the Asia/Pacific Group:

- a. what number of meetings have taken place?
- b. where they have taken place?
- c. what is your involvement to the extent of how coordinated the action is within the South-East Asia region?

I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF)

The FATF holds three Plenary meetings annually. From time to time "special" or "ad-hoc" Plenary meetings have also been held. Plenary meetings are attended by FATF member nations and international observer organisations. In addition, the FATF hosts regular meetings of experts on money laundering and terrorist financing typologies, and, depending on the focus of its current work, meetings of ad hoc working groups. For example, there are currently two FATF Working Groups on the Review of the Forty Recommendations and Terrorist Financing respectively, each of which meet regularly.

Details of FATF Plenary meetings held in the period 2000-2002 are as follows:

| | |
|----------------|---|
| February 2000 | Paris |
| June 2000 | Paris |
| September 2000 | Madrid |
| February 2001 | Paris |
| June 2001 | Paris |
| September 2001 | Paris |
| October 2001 | Washington DC (Extraordinary Plenary Meeting on Terrorist Financing issues) |
| Jan/Feb 2002 | Hong Kong |
| May 2002 | Rome (Special Plenary Meeting on the Review of the Forty Recommendations) |
| June 2002 | Paris |
| October 2002 | Paris |

FATF typologies meetings are usually held in the country chairing the relevant typologies group. Recent meetings have taken place in Rome and Wellington. Meetings of FATF ad hoc working groups generally take place either in the country chairing the group or at OECD Headquarters in Paris. Recent meetings have taken place in Paris (in conjunction with the October 2002 Plenary meeting) and in Ottawa.

SENATE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
NATIONAL CRIME AUTHORITY
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing of 20 November 2002:

Is there any way of obtaining or being provided with the authority's finances at the end of this financial year, such as its cash reserves, its current liabilities and its current assets as at, say, 30 June 2002?

I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

A copy of the NCA's financial statements has been provided to the honourable Senator.

SENATE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
NATIONAL CRIME AUTHORITY
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing of 20 November 2002:

Could you please provide:

- a. details of the positions held,
- b. the degree of seniority that you currently have compared to last year,
- c. the specialist levels or levels that people are placed in to reflect their degree of skill or knowledge within the industry,
- d. the years of service.

I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

Following is a table of overall NCA staffing for the period requested.

| Classification | 30 June 01 | 30 June 02 | 25 Nov 02 |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Chairman | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Member | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| SES 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| SES 2 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| SES 1 | 9 | 8 | 8 |
| EL 2 | 34 | 38 | 43 |
| EL 1 | 32 | 53 | 51 |
| APS 6 | 28 | 28 | 33 |
| APS 5 | 35 | 33 | 37 |
| APS 4 | 22 | 23 | 21 |
| APS 3 | 66 | 74 | 86 |
| APS 2 | 13 | 13 | 19 |
| APS 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Seconded Police | 128 | 116 | 116 |
| Seconded Tax | 12 | 9 | 8 |
| Seconded Customs | 6 | 1 | 2 |
| TOTAL | 395 | 406 | 435 |

The National Crime Authority has three specialist, professional categories of staff, Intelligence Analysts, Lawyers and Financial Investigators. The NCA also has officers seconded from other law enforcement agencies. The specialist staff and seconded officers constitute the bulk of the NCA's front line investigations staff.

Following are tables which show the numbers and levels of staff in these specialist groups. The classification levels of these staff reflect their degree of skill and knowledge within their industry group. The NCA does not hold sufficient relevant data on seconded staff.

| | 30 June 01 | 30 June 02 | | 25 Nov 02 | |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|---------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| | | | Years of service | | Years of service |
| Intelligence | | | | | |
| Analysts | | | | | |
| EL 1 | 2 | 2 | (14) | 1 | (8) |
| APS 6 | 16 | 16 | (168) | 17 | (182) |
| APS 5 | 12 | 7 | (82) | 7 | (85) |
| APS 4 | 2 | 2 | (29) | 2 | (29) |
| Total | 32 | 27 | | 27 | |
| Lawyers | | | | | |
| SES 3 | 1 | 1 | (2) | 1 | (3) |
| EL 2 | 10 | 7 | (124) | 6 | (99) |
| EL 1 | 2 | 5 | (24) | 5 | (22) |
| Total | 13 | 13 | | 12 | |
| Financial | | | | | |
| Investigators | | | | | |
| EL 2 | 10 | 10 | (231) | 11 | (241) |
| EL 1 | 4 | 4 | (33) | 2 | (21) |
| APS 6 | 2 | 2 | (37) | 1 | (20) |
| Total | 16 | 16 | | 14 | |
| Seconded Police | | | | | |
| Investigators | 128 | 116 | | 116 | |
| Seconded Tax | | | | | |
| Officers | 12 | 9 | | 8 | |
| Seconded Customs | | | | | |
| Officers | 6 | 1 | | 2 | |

SENATE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
NATIONAL CRIME AUTHORITY
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing of 20 November 2002:

- a. Can you provide a breakdown of those figures for this year and last years in tabulated form?
- b. How many positions are currently vacant within the NCA and what arrangements have been put in place to ensure the smooth transition from the NCA to the ACC in relation to both staffing and how that transition will go?

I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

- a. Refer to the previous answer.
- b. Vacant positions at 25 November 2002 are as follows:

| Classification | Positions |
|----------------|-----------|
| APS 1/2 | 2 |
| APS 2 | 5 |
| APS 3 | 6 |
| APS 4 | 2 |
| APS 5 | 1 |
| APS 6 | 1 |
| APS 6/EL 1 | 8 |
| EL 1 | 5 |

Vacancies in the Sagan covert initiative are not included for security reasons.

The transitional provisions of the proposed ACC Act provide that all NCA, Attorney-General's Department and Australian Federal Police staff who are transferred to the ACC will retain their existing terms and conditions on transfer.

The NCA Certified Agreement, which was due to cease on 30 June 2002 has been extended to 30 June 2003.

NCA staff were offered a retention bonus to remain with the NCA until the earlier of 31 March 2003 or the day the ACC legislation comes into effect.

The ACC Implementation Team has engaged a Consultancy specialising in change management to provide the NCA, ABCI and OSCA leaders and staff members with skills and strategies to deal constructively with change, while helping to ensure that workplace productivity, teamwork and morale are sustained during this time.

The Consultancy has worked in partnership with the three agencies to develop and implement support programs.

SENATE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing of 20 November 2002:

Did the AFP respond to the Ombudsman's report on accountability arrangements applying to listening devices?

I am advised that the answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

On 4 December 2002, the AFP sought clarification from the Committee on the specific report being referred to, as enquiries had been made with the Attorney-General's Department, the Office of the Ombudsman and the relevant operational areas of the AFP to identify the report to which the Senator referred.

Details about the report (title, recommendation, etc) would assist the AFP in identifying the appropriate response. Any clarification available would be welcomed.