

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 113

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 31 October 2006:

Regarding the Online Child Sexual Exploitation Team, for the years 2004-05 and 2005-06, please indicate the:

- (a) Number of arrests.
- (b) Number of those arrested who have been convicted of an offence.
- (c) The offences that they have been convicted on.

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

The Online Child Sexual Exploitation Team (OCSET) was established in January 2005 with relevant legislation coming into effect on 1 March 2005. There are no figures available for the 2004-05 year.

The following figures apply to the 2005-06 year:

- (a) 21 arrests.
- (b) 10 persons have been convicted / pleaded guilty to an offence.¹
- (c) Those persons convicted and sentenced were done so pursuant to the following offences:
 - 1 x *Criminal Code Act 1995*, Sect 474.27 (grooming);

¹ This figure does not include arrests and convictions by State / Territory Police or International Police agencies resulting from referrals from OCSET. OCSET maintain records through AFP systems of all matters referred to other jurisdictions. Each referral package contains a feedback form which requests the receiving agency complete and provide to OCSET on the results/outcomes of each referral.

Each police service has different protocols for the way each referral is managed. Referrals range from an Information Report to full allegation of criminal activity. It is not possible to retrieve referral information without manual extraction and examination of the information provided by the AFP.

OCSET is unable to provide details of the actions taken in relation to matters that it refers to the State / Territory Police or International Police agencies.

OCSET has also disseminated **667 'persons of interest' packages** to **State and Territory police**.

During 2006, **43 'persons of interest' packages** were referred by OCSET to **international police agencies** for evaluation.

- 4 x *Criminal Code Act 1995*, Sect 474.19 (access/transmit child pornography using carriage service);
- 1 x *Criminal Code Act 1995*, Sect 474.20 (possess/control child pornography for use on carriage service);
- 2 x *Customs Act 1901*, Sect 233BAB (import child pornography);
- 1 x *Crimes Act 1900* (NSW), Sect 91H (possess child pornography);
- 1 x *Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935* (SA), Section 63A (possess child pornography); and
- 1 x *Censorship Act 1996* (WA), Sect 60 (possess child pornography).