

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 116

Senator Barnett asked the following question at the hearing on 20 October 2008:

Airport security is dependent on seconded officers from State and Territory police forces to meet requirements.

- a) Does the AFP have sufficient resources from the State and Territory forces to meet operational needs?
- b) What arrangements does the AFP have in place if/when seconded officers are required by their state or territory agencies?

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

- a) The Australian Federal Police has resources from state and territory jurisdictions to maintain operational capabilities at designated airports within Australia. The full implementation of the Airport Uniform Policing Component of the Unified Policing Model is ongoing and the AFP is working closely with state and territory jurisdictions to realise the complement of agreed numbers.
- b) Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) are in existence with states and territories which relate to the attachment of jurisdictional policing personnel to the Unified Policing Model. Each MOU includes a termination clause where the jurisdiction is required to provide the AFP with twenty-eight days notice to terminate the appointment of any individual seconded police officer. The AFP is required to comply with a termination request on the understanding that a replacement will be provided as soon as practicable. Each MOU also addresses the issue of provision of support as operationally required by either party.