

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 77

Senator Hanson-Young asked the following question at the hearing on 20 October 2008:

The Government will provide \$191.9 million over five years (including \$94.4 million in 2012/13) to deliver an additional 500 sworn Australian Federal Police officers. The additional officers will work on high impact criminal investigations relating to transnational and domestic crime, counter terrorism, high tech crime, fraud, money laundering, people smuggling, drug trafficking and child exploitation.

- a) How many staff are allocated to combat trafficking of persons?
- b) Can the Committee have a breakdown of how much money has been spent on programs to combat trafficking in the current financial year?
- c) Is there specific training that these officers are required to go through when dealing with victims of trafficking?
- d) If so, how much is spent on this training?

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

- a) The AFP has a dedicated investigations capacity to combat trafficking titled the "Transnational Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking Teams" (TSETT) in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Canberra. The number of permanently dedicated investigations staff totals twenty one with further support provided by Border Operations investigators in all other AFP local offices on a needs basis. Additional support to TSETT investigations is provided by the AFP International Liaison Officer Network, particularly in Bangkok.
- b) Under the whole of government NPI Combating Trafficking – Extension and Expansion, the AFP received a further \$16.3 million over the four years 2007 – 2011 to investigate trafficking in people for the purpose of exploitation. Operational funding to support all TSETT initiatives for this financial year is approximately \$3.9 million. The AFP TSETT funding supports all investigations, training, and stakeholder liaison activity for this financial year.
- c) The AFP developed a specialist investigations training program in 2004 to address the specific skills required to investigate people trafficking and deal with victims of trafficking.
- d) Each domestic Human Trafficking Specialist Investigations Program costs approximately \$80,000 per year. The TSETT also conduct offshore training workshops to support capacity building, networking and international cooperation to combat trafficking in origin and destination countries. Costs for offshore training programs vary dependent on location and single or multi jurisdictional participation.