Question taken on Notice by AFP – 6 November 2008

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Assistant Commissioner Newton - Yes. Voluntary redundancy packages were offered to employees across the organisation so that we could meet our funding commitments versus our salary and operating costs.

Mr. Wood - How many of those were taken? How many AFP members took those?

Assistant Commissioner Newton - I did not come to this committee with those statistics. We can provide you with the figures as to how many redundancies the AFP had. It was not only investigators; it was also our unsworn support staff. But we will provide you with an up-to-date on that.

Answer:

The AFP initiated a voluntary redundancy exercise in June 2008, to meet changing business requirements. The use of the voluntary redundancy process complements the AFP workforce planning and provides a number of re-engineering opportunities for the organisation. The AFP uses voluntary redundancies as part of its ongoing human resource management and the AFP has and continues to consider offering voluntary redundancies where appropriate. There have not been any forced redundancies as part of this ongoing process.

As at 1 December 2008, a total of 170 employees had accepted the offer of a voluntary redundancy. The breakdown of those employees who accepted a redundancy is as follows:

- Protective Security Officers 54;
- Unsworn employees 56; and
- Sworn Officers 60 (comprising 8 ACT Policing; 16 State Office investigators; 26 operations support or corporate and; 10 inoperative/long term leave).

Of the sworn employees who accepted a redundancy, only sixteen were attached to sworn investigative duties. This voluntary redundancy exercise has now been finalised.