

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 97

Senator Humphries asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2012:

- a) The \$58.3 million expenditure from the Confiscated Assets Account is to be redirected in the 2012-13 financial year. What type of items are usually seized and placed into the Confiscated Assets Account?
- b) What has this expenditure been deferred to?
- c) In previous years what has the funding from this account been spent on?
- d) Has alternative funding been provided to these community crime prevention programs?
- e) Could this funding not be better spent on fighting crime in the local community given the escalating gun violence in recent times?

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

- a) Under the Commonwealth asset confiscation regime, any type of asset can potentially be subject to confiscation if it is the 'proceeds' or an 'instrument' of a Commonwealth offence. Property derived from State or Territory offences is usually required to be dealt with under the relevant State or Territory confiscation regime.

A wide variety of assets have been subject to Commonwealth confiscation action by the AFP and Criminal Assets Confiscation Taskforce in recent years including, but not limited to; cash, share portfolios, luxury cars, jewellery, motorcycles, light planes, jet-skis, sail and motor boats, artwork and other collectables.

- b)–e) See answer to Question on Notice number 187 from Budget Estimates May 2012.