

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
CRIMTRAC

Question No. 102

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

- a) Please provide an update on the current progress of the Child Exploitation Tracking System which was due for completion in December 2011.
- b) Why has the implementation of this system taken this long?
- c) What reasons can the Agency provide to explain why the System was not implemented in December 2011 as suggested by the 09-10 Annual Report?
- d) Is the Agency aware of any states or territories looking at developing their own software and implementing such?
- e) Would the Agency agree that if the states and territories are implementing their own systems as a consequence of CrimTrac's delay, there could be issues surrounding communication between jurisdictions, the possibility of 'doubling up' on systems and information, and the possible waste of state and territory resources? Explain?
- f) Is there a possibility that as a consequence of the project's delay child exploitation material may have been exchanged during this period? If so, is there a possibility that due to the lack of the System due for implementation in December 2011 children may have been exploited during this time? Please provide details.

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

- a) The Child Exploitation Tracking System (CETS) has been installed and operational at CrimTrac since late 2011. The operational management has been provided since that time by the Australian Federal Police (AFP) within their High Tech Crime Operations (HTCO) Portfolio. The system is available nationally through the AFP HTCO and the local systems in the Queensland Police Service and Victoria Police.

In March 2012 the CrimTrac Board of Management approved the expansion of the CETS so all jurisdictions would be able to host local tools for CETS with all data being transmitted to the central database hosted by CrimTrac and managed by the AFP HTCO.

- b) The CETS was originally deployed in CrimTrac in October 2010. Over the next 12 months data was loaded on to the system to begin full functional and operational testing. From October 2011 the system has had operational management provided by the AFP's HTCO, and available nationally through the AFP, the Queensland Police Service and the Victoria Police.
- c) CETS has been available to all police agencies in Australia since October 2011.
- d) No states or territories are looking at developing their own software and implementing such. All states and territories, through the CrimTrac Board of Management, are committed to the current national system.
- e) No states and territories are implementing their own systems.
- f) The project was not "delayed".