

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

**Question No. 90**

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

- a) Will the deferral of the 500 sworn officers until 2015-16 affect the operational capacity of the Australian Federal Police's Identity Security Strike Teams (ISST)?
- b) Question on notice 32 from February 2012 Senate Additional Estimates provides that the ISST's are staffed by multiple agencies. What other agencies are contributing staff to these teams?
- c) How many staff are provided from these agencies?

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

- a) No. The AFP employs a flexible investigations model which has the ability to deploy investigators across crime types and around Australia according to operational priorities.
- b) – c) The AFP hosts multi-agency Identity Security Strike Teams in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. The constitution of the ISST's varies from time to time, dependent upon the nature of the investigations undertaken.

Each of the ISST's has 1 Department of Immigration and Citizenship investigator attached on a permanent basis. In Sydney, the ISST also comprises the permanent attachment of 2 officers from the New South Wales Police Service and 1 from Roads & Maritime Services.

No other agency provides a dedicated commitment of resources to the ISST; however, Victoria Police, Queensland Police and Australian Customs and Border Protection Service undertake joint investigations on a needs basis.