

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017

Australian Federal Police

Question No. BE17-048

Senator Fawcett asked the following question on 25 May 2017:

Senator FAWCETT: How many arrests have you made? Can you give us an idea, in terms of organised crime, of the number of people arrested and the number of people who, having been convicted and perhaps done a sentence, are then arrested for a subsequent crime in those areas?

Mr Colvin: We would probably have to take that on notice. We would certainly have a number of arrests that we have made over certain periods of time, but we would have to break down which of those were for organised crime matters and which of those were for different types of matters. The second part I think we would find very difficult to answer.

Senator FAWCETT: In terms of organised crimes and gangs, how extensive is the incidence of coercion for people who have an association with those gangs? Do you find that coercion of other parties is part of how they work?

Ms Close: It certainly is a part of the way that they tend to operate, their modus operandi. In terms of numbers or statistics in respect of that, I would have to take that on notice, because that is quite specific offence to obtain.

The response to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

The AFP would not be able to find and provide information to answer either of these questions. The AFP does not have information on sentencing that it could use to answer the first question, and obtaining further details would require extensive manual research with external agencies. Regarding the second question, as the Deputy Commissioner has stated, coercion can be part of gang activity, but the AFP does not hold information that would be able to demonstrate this statistically.