

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017

Australian Federal Police

Question No. BE17-060

Senator Kakoschke-Moore asked the following question on 25 May 2017:

Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE: Do you have specific funding set aside for those categories of trafficking that I just mentioned?

Mr Colvin: I do not believe we have any current funding program measures specific to human trafficking, no.

Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE: Is there any current funding set aside for cybersex trafficking?

Mr Colvin: Not in a specific way, I would not suggest, no.

Ms Close: No, in the AFP, under our crime operations division, we investigate these crimes as they are referred to us as a matter of course. So, no specific funding—there are a range of investigators focussed on various crime types.

Mr Colvin: So there is a base appropriation that we make decisions about priorities—about what we should and should not investigate.

Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE: Would it be possible, on notice, to provide a breakdown of your efforts in each of those spaces and the funding that was used in order to help you investigate cases of trafficking?

Mr Colvin: Certainly, we can provide you with the number of referrals, number of investigations and number of prosecutions.

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

Human Trafficking and Child Protection Operations investigations are funded within the AFP Crime Operations budget. This includes human trafficking, slavery and slavery-like offences, and the live-streaming of child exploitation material.

Human trafficking, slavery and slavery like practises are comprehensively criminalised under division 270 and 271 of the Criminal Code. In the 2015-16FY the AFP received 169 new referrals relating to human trafficking and slavery matters, taking the total referrals since 2004 to 691 as at 30 June 2016.

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Type of AFP investigation by financial year

Offence	2013/14 FY	2014/15 FY	2015/16 FY
Forced marriage	11	33	69
Sexual exploitation	31	34	39
Labour exploitation	22	33	36

Child trafficking	2	11	10
Trafficking	2	4	13
Other	2	4	2
Total	70	119	169

Since 2004 there have been 20 people successfully prosecuted and convicted for Human Trafficking offences.