

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

**Question No. 19**

**Senator Humphries asked the following question at the hearing on 22 February 2011:**

1. How big is the AFP's current contingent to Afghanistan?
2. Can a breakdown please be provided of the level of AFP officers deployed to Afghanistan at 6 monthly intervals over the last 4 years?
3. What are the primary roles for officers on the ground?

Defence Minister Stephen Smith said on 17 November that the Government were considering sending an additional 15 AFP officers.

4. Will this occur?

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

1. The current AFP contingent in Afghanistan comprises 28 members.
2. The breakdown of AFP officers deployed to Afghanistan since October 2007 is detailed in the table below:

Level	Oct-07	Apr-08	Oct-08	Apr-09	Oct-09	Apr-10	Oct-10	Mar-11
Coordinator	4	4	4	4	6	7	4	4
Team Leader	0	0	0	4	16	15	13	13
Team Member	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	11
Grand Total	4	4	4	8	22	22	28	28

3. The primary objective of AFP officers deployed to Afghanistan is to train, develop and mentor Afghan National Police in Uruzgan Province, in conjunction with Afghan and coalition efforts. The roles for officers currently deployed to Afghanistan are detailed below:

Location	Role	No.
Tarin Kowt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training and mentoring at Police Training Centre</li> </ul>	21
Kandahar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NATO Training Mission</li> <li>• Joint Regional ANP Training Centre</li> <li>• Counter Narcotics Joint Interagency Task Force</li> </ul>	3
Kabul	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AFP Mission Command</li> <li>• Liaison with NATO Training Mission</li> <li>• Engagement with the International Operations Coordination Centre</li> <li>• Training to Afghan Major Crime Task Force</li> </ul>	4
	Total	28

4. On 22 February 2011, the Australian Government received a written request from NATO Supreme Headquarters Allied Partners Europe requesting additional AFP trainers to the Kandahar Afghan Uniform Police (AUP) Regional Training Centre to replace departing Canadian Personnel.

On 28 February 2011, the Australian Federal Police received correspondence from Lieutenant General Caldwell, Commander NATO Training Mission Afghanistan (NTM-A). Specifically NTM-A are seeking consideration from Australia for additional police contributions to NTM-A, the Ministry of Interior (MOI) and the Afghan National Police (ANP) Training General Command.

AFP Manager Operations and Missions will travel to Afghanistan in the next few weeks to meet with NTM-A and examine the specifics of NATO's requests with a view to providing a formal response.