

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 86

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2005:

Can we get a true position reflecting both incursions and the number of sightings of vessels, including the information that you have already provided?

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

The Coastwatch aerial surveillance information system records as a sighting each vessel that is located during a surveillance flight. This includes, but is not limited to, foreign fishing vessels (FFVs), yachts, Australian fishing vessels, and merchant ships. Many traditional FFVs are of very similar construction and carry no identifying markings. There is no way of discerning individual vessels from the air. In areas of concentrated aerial surveillance therefore, the same vessel may be "sighted" (counted) by successive flights.

Sightings figures will therefore include:

- multiple sightings of the same vessel by different aerial surveillance flights;
- sightings of vessels legitimately fishing in areas such as the MOU box; and
- sightings of vessels legitimately transiting the AEEZ.

When an FFV is sighted, the Coastwatch aircraft assesses the likelihood that the vessel is committing an offence on the basis of its observations from low passes over the vessel. This aerial assessment can only be substantiated as an incursion (that is, a vessel committing an offence) when the vessel is boarded from a response asset. For Coastwatch purposes therefore, an incursion is the total of vessels where there is *prima facie* evidence of an offence; that is the total of FFVs apprehended, those where a legislative forfeiture is undertaken, and those issued with a warning by the intercepting Customs or Defence vessel.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 87

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2005:

Forfeited goods:

- a) What is the forfeiture period?
- b) What is the number of forfeited goods?
- c) What amount is earned as a consequence of their sale?

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

- a) In the passenger environment goods are generally held for 90 days before being officially seized and forfeited.
- b) There were approximately 9,067 revenue items detained between 1 February 2005 and 31 May 2005.
- c) No auction sales have taken place in this period.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 88

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2005:

Do you send answers to Senate Committee questions from Customs to your staff? If so, what procedures are adopted?

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

Answers to Senate Committee Questions on Notice that have been accepted by the committee, are provided to staff on request. Customs will place future answers to Senate Committee Questions on Notice, that have been accepted by the committee, on the Customs Intranet.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 89

Senator Buckland asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2005:

Negotiation of the PNG ECP: What is happening in terms of funding given the withdrawal of personnel?

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

AusAID has advised that on the non-policing component of the ECP, there have been no financial implications for the aid program for the 2004/2005 financial year, as all civilian ECP officials remain in PNG. The impact on future funding will not be known until after the governments of Australia and PNG have finalised bilateral negotiations on the future of the ECP.

The AFP will return surplus funding from the PNG ECP program for 2004-05 to the Government Budget. The out years funding currently remains in the forward estimates pending the outcome of negotiations between the governments of Australia and PNG on the future of the ECP.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Question No. 90

Senator Allison asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2005:

Removal of Troops from PNG - What is the effect on law and order in those areas where they previously were working? Are we monitoring that?

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

The Enhanced Cooperation Package (ECP) involves the deployment of Australian police to work in the Royal PNG Constabulary (RPNGC), and Australian officials in PNG Government agencies. No troops have been deployed.

Crime recording in the RPNGC is highly unreliable and was an area of focus for the policing component of the ECP prior to its discontinuation. As such, there is no truly accurate way to assess the impact of the withdrawal of the Assisting Australian Police (AAP). On the information available to 24 June, it appears that there has not been a general decline in the law and order situation since the withdrawal of the AAP.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 91

Senator Allison asked the following question at the hearing of 24 May 2005:

Reporting back to Australia on law and order and whether or not it is being maintained or is breaking down, or what the impact of our withdrawal has been?

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

The AFP maintains a presence in PNG through its International Network. Along with other Australian agencies at post, the AFP reports regularly to Government on developments and activities in PNG, including the issues of law and order and ECP matters.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 92

Senator Carr asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2005:

Unauthorised disclosures of information within the Australian Public Service – is that the case that involves a reference to a member of parliament who happens to be a committee chair?

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

This investigation was referred to the Australian Federal Police from the Department of Veterans' Affairs. At no time during the investigation has a member of parliament been suspected of being involved.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 93

Senator Carr asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2005:

Unauthorised disclosures of information within the Australian Public Service – Have the two matters from PM&C both been resolved?

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

Both investigations are currently in the process of being finalised. Neither investigation identified the person or persons responsible for the disclosure.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 94

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2005:

- a) When was the position of International Counter Terrorism Coordinator created?
- b) Was there a delay between creation and filling of the position?

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

- a) The position of International Coordinator Counter Terrorism was created on 1 January 2005 using existing role descriptions for Coordinator positions.
- b) No. The International Coordinator Counter Terrorism was filled on 1 January 2005 drawn from a selection of AFP officers already performing, or determined suitable to fill any AFP Coordinator position.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 95

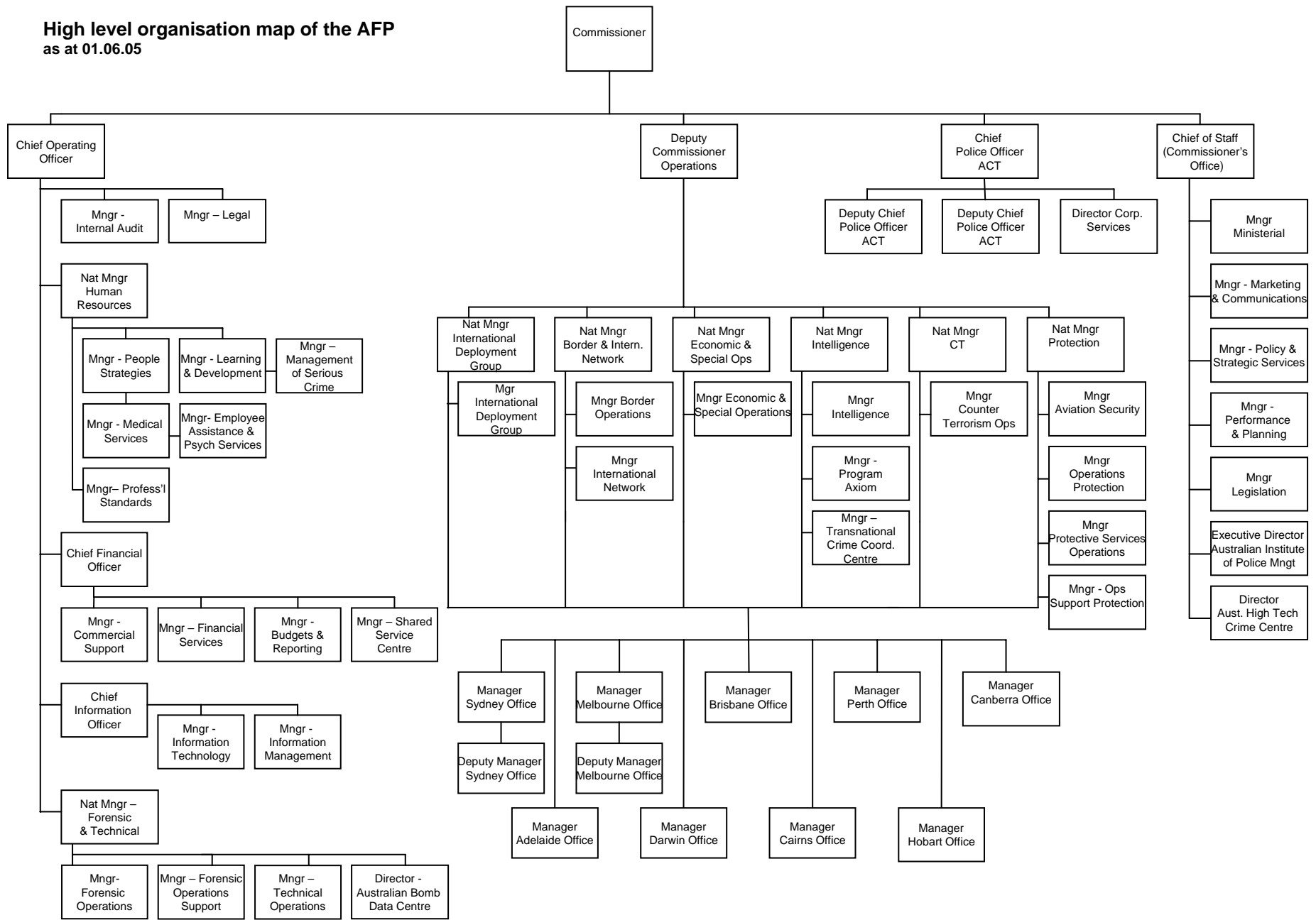
Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2005:

Please provide an organisational chart that outlines the functional streams that make up the AFP structure.

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

The high level organisation map depicting the AFP Structure under the functional model is attached.

High level organisation map of the AFP as at 01.06.05



SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 96

Senator Allison asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2005:

In which airports were baggage handling areas covered under CCTV arrangements?

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

The AFP does not deploy or operate CCTV in baggage handling areas.

The AFP is aware the majority of airports currently have CCTV arrangements covering their baggage handling areas. The installation and CCTV coverage of baggage handling and secure areas is the responsibility of airport and airline operators and/or Australian Customs Service.

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 97

Senator Allison asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2005:

How long are the tapes from airport CCTV systems maintained?

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

The AFP does not deploy or operate CCTV in baggage handling areas.