

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

**Output 2.2**

**Question No. 102**

**Senator Brandis asked the following question at the hearing on 27 May 2008:**

Please indicate the number of people hours within the Department that have been devoted to the Patel extradition since the first letter of request from the Queensland authorities was received.

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

The Extradition Unit is staffed by a number of case officers. Extradition requests made to or from Australia are allocated to individual case officers who are responsible for the day to day management of each extradition case. Those case officers are supervised by the Director of the Extradition Unit.

The Patel extradition case was assigned to a Senior Legal Officer at the time the first letter of request was received from Queensland in June 2006. As the Extradition Unit does not employ time recording, no precise figure can be given for the number of "people hours" which have been devoted to the Patel extradition case. However, it is estimated that on average the Patel extradition case would have occupied 15% to 20% of a Senior Legal Officer's regular working hours (noting that the Senior Legal Officer would not have worked consistently on the Patel matter during the period from receipt of the first letter of request until the present, but would have allocated resources to the case as required from time to time). A smaller proportion of time of the Director and other senior managers within the Department would also have been occupied by the Patel matter.