

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

**Question No. 116**

**Senator Humphries asked the following question at the hearing on 18 October 2010:**

- a) Can you give me an update on the AFP's dogs; how many dogs are currently enlisted within the AFP?
- b) Can you please provide me with a breakdown of how many dogs there are exercising each duty?

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

- a) There are currently 52 canines deployed around Australia.

The Australian Federal Police (AFP) provides the following canine capability:

- Firearm and Explosive Detector Dogs (FEDD);
- Explosive Detector Dogs;
- Currency and Drug Detection Dogs (CADD); and
- General purpose or tactical dogs (for use by the Operational Response Group).

In February 2010, the Government announced additional funding over four years of \$17.8m to enhance the AFP's FEDD capabilities by providing an additional 17 FEDD teams at Australia's major international airports.

This initiative commenced on 1 July 2010 and its implementation is on schedule to be completed by 30 June 2011.

The ACT Policing Specialist Response and Security Unit provide a canine law enforcement capability to assist in the search and location of persons, the maintenance of public order and explosive detection.

- b) The breakdown of how many dogs there are exercising each duty is outlined in Table 1.

**Table 1:**

	<b>Canines - Aviation</b>			
<b>Location</b>	<b>FEDD</b>	<b>CADD</b>	<b>Tactical</b>	<b>Total Canines</b>
Adelaide Airport	2	1	0	3
Brisbane Airport	5	2	0	7
Cairns Airport	2	1	0	3
Gold Coast Airport	2	0	0	2
Alice Springs Airport	0	0	0	0
Hobart Airport	2	1	0	3
Melbourne Airport	5	1	0	6
Perth Airport	4	1	0	5
Sydney Airport	6	1	0	7
Canberra Airport	3	1	0	4
Darwin Airport	2	1	0	3
Headquarters Joint Operations Command	2	0	0	2
Operational Response Group	0	0	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>47</b>

<b>Canines – ACT Policing</b>		
<b>Explosive Detection</b>	<b>General Purpose</b>	<b>Total Canines</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>

**TOTAL 52**