

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS — JACOB ANTHONISZ

489. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the parliamentary secretary representing the Attorney General:

I refer to the recent decision to drop 542 charges against Mr Jacob Anthonisz, and the Attorney General's answer to my question yesterday.

What is the estimated cost borne and time spent by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions progressing the prosecution case against the aforementioned person, as well as multiple accused persons, which arose from the Western Australia Police Force Operation Tangmere?

Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question. The following answer has been provided to me by the Attorney General.

The systems used by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions do not collect data in a manner in which this question can be meaningfully answered. It is not uncommon for state prosecutors to work beyond standard hours. This would therefore distort a time and cost calculation arrived at on the prosecutor's salary. Accordingly, it is not possible to provide an accurate estimate of the cost borne and time spent by the ODPP in progressing the prosecution of all accused involved in Operation Tangmere.