

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport  
Answers to Questions on Notice  
**Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Portfolio**

**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates

**Question No:** SQ23-000876

**Outcome:** Outcome 2

**Division/Agency:** Biosecurity Operations Division

**Topic:** Cost Recovery Border Services

**Question Date:** 2 November 2023

**Question Type:** Written

**Senator McKenzie asked:**

1. Is the Department addressing backlogs in import document processing by deploying officers on an overtime basis? If not, why not?
2. Is the Department addressing backlogs in import document processing by deploying officers on an overtime basis on a per consignment basis?
3. Have the lodgements awaiting assessment increased since 1 July 2023 to 2 November 2023?
4. How many lodgements were awaiting assessment on 30 June 2023?
5. How many lodgements were awaiting assessment on 2 November 2023?

**Answer:**

1. Yes.
2. Yes.
3. Yes.
4. 789.
5. 3,404.