

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Review of Hotel Quarantine Arrangements by Ms Jane Halton AO

Senator: Gallagher

Question reference number: 0221

Type of question: Hansard, page 30, 24 September 2020

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday 9 October 2020

Number of pages: 2

Question:

CHAIR: Has the Prime Minister asked the COVID commission to look at solutions for this—the COVID commission was set up to, in the Prime Minister's terms, 'solve problems during COVID-19'. Is this on the COVID commission or the COVID commission advisory group's agenda?

Ms Foster: The challenge that we're facing relates, as both Ms Frame and Mr Duggan have said, to the availability of safe, effective quarantine, and that's not an issue, which I believe the COVID commission has—

CHAIR: So it's not on their agenda? Okay.

Ms Foster: a role to play in because it's about public health capability, not about business interests.

CHAIR: We'll come to the public health capability.

Mr Duggan: Actually there is one element to that, though, which is the review that Ms Jane Halton is conducting from within the COVID commission and which gets to the point of hotel quarantining—

CHAIR: Yes, but I don't believe that has been released publicly—

Ms Foster: It's not yet completed.

Ms Frame: It's not yet completed.

CHAIR: Right.

Ms Frame: It's due to be submitted to the national cabinet in October.

CHAIR: But I believe that she briefed national cabinet.

Ms Frame: She has briefed national cabinet on two occasions, yes.

CHAIR: I'm sure I read somewhere that she briefed them on the findings of her report, that it had been completed.

Ms Frame: She briefed them in August and again last Friday, to give them an update. The report has not been completed and submitted but she provided the national cabinet with an update.

CHAIR: Is it going to be released publicly?

Ms Frame: I'll have to take that on notice. It was a report for the national cabinet and I'll have to confirm that.

CHAIR: Paid for by taxpayers.

Ms Frame: I will confirm that; I just don't know. I'll get you the right information.

Answer:

Public release of the final report is a matter for the National Cabinet.

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: The Prime Minister's discussions with Heads of Mission

Senator: Gallagher

Question reference number: 0222

Type of question: Hansard, page 30, 24 September 2020

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday 9 October 2020

Number of pages: 1

Question:

CHAIR: Okay. Do you know if the Prime Minister has discussed the issue of stranded Australians with any heads of mission? He has some pretty close friends overseas at the moment—Mr Brandis, for example. Are you aware if he has spoken to any of those people about the situation that Australians find themselves in?

Ms Millar: I don't have the answer to that question, although we can certainly take it on notice. DFAT may be able to assist with that—they are DFAT's posts overseas.

Answer:

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is not aware of any call between the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP, and an Australian Head of Mission on this subject.

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Australian Government capacity to employ a public health work force to run quarantine facilities

Senator: Keneally

Question reference number: 0223

Type of question: Hansard, page 33, 24 September 2020

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday 9 October 2020

Number of pages: 2

Question:

CHAIR: Yes, but my question is have you gone out and looked at how you procure—I can see you deployed a \$3½ million health work force contract a few weeks ago. The Commonwealth are out there doing it, they're doing it in other areas, so why not to run quarantine facilities and support extra Australians to return home?

Ms Frame: We are actively considering all options.

CHAIR: Yes, but my point is that if all of this has been on the table or is being looked at and has been seen as the constraint since before July, why are we in September with 35,000 Australians, many of them in dire circumstances, 4,000 of them considered vulnerable, stuck overseas with Australian passports and unable to return?

Ms Frame: As I said, I'm not sure there's much more I can add, other than we are actively looking at everything possible to increase the capacity to support quarantine and get as many Australians home as possible. We have a public health workforce that are really deeply engaged in COVID-19 responses across the whole country. There is not an abundance of public health professionals who are just idle and ready to be utilised in that respect, but we are actively looking at wherever resourcing might be, how we can assist the states and what capacity the Commonwealth might have to assist further.

Senator KENEALLY: Ms Frame, if I could address the question in this way, then: you've just said to use that you don't believe there is that capacity. I think what Senator Gallagher's question was trying to go to was: have you actually tested the market? Have you actually tried?

Ms Frame: I haven't in my role.

Senator KENEALLY: I don't mean you, personally. I mean has the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet or the Commonwealth actually tried?

Ms Frame: I'll take it on notice, because I would need to talk to colleagues in the Department of Health. The Department of PM&C has not, to my awareness, but I would need to talk to Health. They may well have more information in that regard.

Senator KENEALLY: Our job as committee members to oversight the Commonwealth's response, to think about what recommendations we might make. It would be incredibly useful to know, when we hear evidence from officials that the capacity, in your view, to provide a

public health monitoring of an expanded quarantine system does not exist, what evidence you are basing that claim on.

Ms Frame: I don't believe that's what I said. I said I will talk to the Department of Health. I can get you the information. I will take it on notice and find out what capacity exists. As I said, it's under very active consideration, and we are working together across the government to look into all options and where the Commonwealth can assist states further and where the Commonwealth can assist directly to increase quarantine capacity in the country so that more Australians can return home. I'll get you the exact information.

Senator KENEALLY: That would be really useful.

Answer:

On 27 March 2020, the National Cabinet agreed states and territories (States) would meet the costs of hotel quarantine, and determine any contributions required from travellers arriving within their jurisdictions, as mandatory hotel quarantine requirements are implemented under relevant State legislation.

The National Cabinet also agreed that the Commonwealth would provide support through the Australian Defence Force and the Australian Border Force where necessary.

This reflects the practicalities of an effective quarantine system, which needs to bring together healthcare, logistics and law enforcement.

The Commonwealth has no contracts with providers to run quarantine facilities.

The Commonwealth is continuing to work with States to balance the need to bring Australian citizens home with ensuring that State public health systems, and resources are not overwhelmed.

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Number of public health professionals that would be required per number head at quarantine site

Senator: Keneally

Question reference number: 0224

Type of question: Hansard, page 34, 24 September 2020

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday 9 October 2020

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator KENEALLY: I'd like to ask one you can take on notice. Could you also provide to us your assessment or your understanding of the number of public health officials that would be required per number of head at a quarantine site. I'd like to know if you've done that work, if you have that understanding and if you could provide the committee with that information.

Ms Frame: I'll take that on notice. I know that is specifically work that Ms Halton has been undertaking in her review of quarantine and what will ensure an effective quarantine program. I don't have that exact number from Ms Halton, but I know that is work she has been doing, and I'll take it on notice.

Answer:

The Department of Health has provided advice that an adequate ongoing staffing model for quarantine accommodation requires a minimum of two staff per 40 residents on a 24/7 basis. A staff of 22 public health officials and administrative support would be needed to establish a quarantine accommodation site for up to 250 residents. For ongoing support, other health services should include:

- primary care, pharmacy access, and clinical and mental health services required on site and accessible 24/7
- emergency call arrangements for residents requiring medical assistance
- daily health checks of residents by senior experienced nursing staff
- the ability to escalate cases to acute care services, including mental health services
- facility needs to be within 60 minutes travel of a hospital with appropriate acute care facilities, including an Intensive Care Unit.

COVID-19

Inquiry into the Australian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic – 29 September 2020

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Defence

Topic: Senate Select Committee on COVID-19 - Q17 - 29 September 2020 – Defence personnel assisting with hotel quarantine - Keneally

Question reference number: 17

Senator: Kristina Keneally

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 13 October 2020

Question:

Please provide data to indicate how many Defence personnel have been deployed to assist hotel quarantine. Please provide monthly data, broken down by state/territory.

Answer:

	NSW	QLD	SA	WA
March	84	52	0	0
April	313	87	0	0
May	299	110	0	0
June	104	105	0	0
July	164	195	0	20
August	214	178	11	75
September	255	339	42	112

These figures are based on numbers of ADF tasked to quarantine compliance support duties in each state/territory as at the final day of each month. Defence support for hotel quarantine compliance was not requested by Victoria, Tasmania, Northern Territory or ACT.

COVID-19

Inquiry into the Australian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic
– 29 September 2020

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Defence

Topic: Senate Select Committee on COVID-19 - Q18 - 29 September 2020 - Supporting Australians overseas - Keneally

Question reference number: 18

Senator/Member: Kristina Keneally

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 13 October 2020

Question:

On 21 August the Prime Minister said that he had tasked the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Home Affairs and Defence to bring forward measures to support Australians overseas.

- a) What measures have been brought forward by the department to support Australians overseas?
 - i. When were these measures brought forward and what agencies were consulted in their development?

Answer:

The Department of Defence has not brought forward measures to support Australians overseas. Defence has provided advice on options in support of other agencies.

COVID-19

Inquiry into the Australian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic
– 29 September 2020

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Defence

Topic: Senate Select Committee on COVID-19 - Q19 - 29 September 2020 - timing of flight cap briefs- Keneally

Question reference number: 19

Senator/Member: Kristina Keneally

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 13 October 2020

Question:

For each of the following, please provide the relevant dates the brief was prepared, the title of the brief, and to whom the brief was provided to:

- a) Briefs prepared for Ministers on the impact of introducing the international flight cap, before Prime Minister announced the cap on 10 July 2020.
- b) Briefs prepared internally in your Department for SES members on the impact of introducing the international flight cap, before Prime Minister announced the cap on 10 July 2020.
- c) Briefs prepared for Ministers on the impact of the international flight cap, from 10 July 2020 to 24 September 2020.
- d) Briefs prepared internally in your Department for SES members on the impact of international flight cap, 10 July 2020 to 24 September 2020.
- e) Briefs prepared for Ministers on options for the Commonwealth to provide additional support to the States to manage quarantine for international arrivals other than providing ADF personnel from 10 July 2020 to 24 September 2020.
- f) Briefs prepared internally in your Department for SES members on options for the Commonwealth to provide additional support to the States to manage quarantine for international arrivals

Answer:

Defence did not prepare briefs in relation to the above issues.

COVID-19

Inquiry into the Australian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic
– 29 September 2020

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Defence

Topic: Senate Select Committee on COVID-19 - Q21 - 29 September 2020 - Supporting Stranded Australians - Keneally

Question reference number: 21

Senator/Member: Kristina Keneally

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 13 October 2020

Question:

Is your agency aware of any Australian Government policy, process or procedure that is in place to ensure that stranded Australians will be prioritised over other potential entrants to Australia?

- a. If yes:
 - i. Can you name those policies, processes or procedures?
 - ii. When did these policies, processes or procedures come into effect?
- b. If no:
 - i. Are any policies, processes or procedures being prepared to ensure that stranded?

Answer:

Defence is aware of the Australian Government's commitment to support Australians that wish to return to Australia. We understand the Prime Minister's expectation that returning Australian nationals and permanent residents take priority when utilising quarantine capacity.

Defence is aware that the Australian Government is considering a number of options for the return of Australians, including through commercial and facilitated flights.

**HOME AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS**

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY WRITTEN QUESTION ON NOTICE

Select Committee COVID-19

QoN Number: CV19-366

Subject: Prioritising Australians

Asked by: Kristina Keneally

Question:

Is your agency aware of any Australian Government policy, process or procedure that is in place to ensure that stranded Australians will be prioritised over other potential entrants to Australia?

a. If yes:

i. Can you name those policies, processes or procedures?

ii. When did these policies, processes or procedures come into effect?

b. If no:

i. Are any policies, processes or procedures being prepared to ensure that stranded?

Answer:

- a. Yes. On 18 September 2020, the Prime Minister detailed the process by which the Australian Government is prioritising financial support, consular assistance, and assistance to return home for stranded Australians. This follows an earlier announcement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs on 2 September 2020 of the expansion of measures to support vulnerable Australians overseas.

The Australian Government's stated commitment is to support Australians that wish to return to Australia. National Cabinet provides a mechanism through which Commonwealth, State and Territory governments can discuss consular support being provided by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) in the context of COVID-19 to assist Australian citizens to return to Australia.

DFAT continues to assist Australians wishing to return to Australia through its overseas missions, within the current caps on international passenger arrivals. DFAT works with the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, the Department of Home Affairs and airlines to get vulnerable Australians on available seats. Airlines are commercial ventures and the Australian Government cannot control who seats are sold to or at what price.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs has made available a Special Overseas Hardship Fund, expanding the existing financial assistance program with further emergency assistance for the most vulnerable Australian citizens overseas.

- i. COVID-19: Overseas financial assistance (Hardship Program).
The Hardship Program includes two types of interest-free loans to vulnerable Australian citizens and their families overseas: emergency living costs loans, and emergency repatriation loans.
Emergency repatriation loans are available to help cover the costs of commercial flights to Australia, where available. Where a flight to Australia can be arranged, a one-off emergency repatriation loan can help cover the cost of the economy class component. The Australian Government will cover the remaining cost of the ticket. The emergency repatriation loan can be used to secure flights where these are available but fares have increased.
Further information can be found at:
<https://www.smartraveller.gov.au/COVID-19/covid-19-overseas-financial-assistance>
- ii. The Foreign Minister announced the Hardship Program on 2 September 2020.

**HOME AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS**

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY WRITTEN QUESTION ON NOTICE

Select Committee COVID-19

QoN Number: CV19-376

Subject: Briefings prepared - International Flight Cap

Asked by: Kristina Keneally

Question:

For each of the following, please provide the relevant dates the brief was prepared, the title of the brief, and to whom the brief was provided to:

- a. Briefs prepared for Ministers on the impact of introducing the international flight cap, before Prime Minister announced the cap on 10 July 2020.
- b. Briefs prepared internally in your Department for SES members on the impact of introducing the international flight cap, before Prime Minister announced the cap on 10 July 2020.
- c. Briefs prepared for Ministers on the impact of the international flight cap, from 10 July 2020 to 24 September 2020.
- d. Briefs prepared internally in your Department for SES members on the impact of international flight cap, 10 July 2020 to 24 September 2020.
- e. Briefs prepared for Ministers on options for the Commonwealth to provide additional support to the States to manage quarantine for international arrivals other than providing ADF personnel from 10 July 2020 to 24 September 2020.
- f. Briefs prepared internally in your Department for SES members on options for the Commonwealth to provide additional support to the States to manage quarantine for international arrivals other than providing ADF personnel from 10 July 2020 to 24 September 2020.

Answer:

- a. Nil from Home Affairs.
- b. Nil from Home Affairs.
- c. Five security classified Ministerial briefs were prepared by Home Affairs during the specified period of time.

One unclassified Ministerial brief was prepared by Home Affairs during the specified period of time as follows:

28 August 2020 - Meeting Brief - Minister Dutton meeting with Ms Zali Steggall MP - Travel Exemption Issues

- d. The following briefs referencing the impacts of international flight caps were prepared for various Department of Home Affairs SES during the specified period of time:

Date	Title	Type of Brief
24 September 2020	Briefing E-Pack – Select Committee on COVID-19	SES Senate Select Committee Brief
22 September 2020	National Coordination Mechanism (NCM) Managing Returns to Australia Working Group: Meeting Record	Record of Meeting
22 September 2020	A security classified brief	
17 September 2020	A security classified brief	
15 September 2020	A security classified brief	
15 September 2020	A security classified brief	
15 September 2020	NCM Managing Returns to Australia Working Group: Meeting Record	Record of Meeting
8 September 2020	NCM Managing Returns to Australia Working Group: Meeting Record	Record of Meeting
8 September 2020	A security classified brief	
7 September 2020	A security classified brief	
1 September 2020	NCM Managing Returns to Australia Working Group: Meeting Record	Record of Meeting
25 August 2020	NCM Managing Returns to Australia Working Group: Meeting Record	Record of Meeting
19 August 2020	A security classified brief	
18 August 2020	NCM Managing Returns to Australia Working Group: Meeting Record	Record of Meeting
17 August 2020	A security classified brief	
13 August 2020	A security classified brief	
12 August 2020	A security classified brief	
11 August 2020	NCM Managing Returns to Australia Working Group: Meeting Record	Record of Meeting
10 August 2020	A security classified brief	
5 August 2020	A security classified brief	
4 August 2020	A security classified brief	
4 August 2020	NCM Managing Returns to Australia Working Group: Meeting Record	Record of Meeting
3 August 2020	A security classified brief	
28 July 2020	NCM Managing Returns to Australia Working Group: Meeting Record	Record of Meeting
24 July 2020	NCM Managing Returns to Australia Working Group: Meeting Record	Record of Meeting
23 July 2020	A security classified brief	
21 July 2020	NCM Managing Returns to Australia Working Group: Meeting Record	Record of Meeting
17 July 2020	NCM Managing Returns to Australia Working Group: Meeting Record	Record of Meeting
17 July 2020	NCM Management International Arrivals Working Group	Record of Meeting
16 July 2020	A security classified brief	

14 July 2020	NCM Managing Returns to Australia Working Group: Meeting Record	Record of Meeting
14 July 2020	NCM Managing International Arrivals Working Group: Meeting Record	Record of Meeting
14 July 2020	NCM Managing International Arrivals: One Page Brief	Record of Meeting
11 July 2020	Managing Returns to Australia Working Group: Meeting Record	Record of Meeting
10 July 2020	Managing Returns to Australia Working Group: Meeting Record	Record of Meeting

- e. One security classified Ministerial brief was prepared by Home Affairs during the specified period of time.

One unclassified Ministerial brief was prepared by Home Affairs during the specified period of time as follows:

17 September 2020 – Emergency Management Australia delegations following Departmental restructure

- f. The following briefs referencing quarantine options for international arrivals other than providing ADF personnel were prepared for Department of Home Affairs SES during the specified period of time:

24 September 2020 – Briefing E-Pack – Select Committee on COVID-19

17 September 2020 – Paper – Howard Springs Quarantine Facility – Property Branch

16 September 2020 – PMCD Options Paper – CI Quarantine Facility

15 September 2020 – A security classified brief

9 September 2020 – Christmas Island

**HOME AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS**

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY WRITTEN QUESTION ON NOTICE

Select Committee COVID-19

QoN Number: CV19-377

Subject: Measures to Support Australians Overseas

Asked by: Kristina Keneally

Question:

On 21 August the Prime Minister said that he had tasked the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Home Affairs and Defence to bring forward measures to support Australians overseas.

- a. What measures have been brought forward by the department to support Australians overseas?
- i. When were these measures brought forward and what agencies were consulted in their development?

Answer:

- a. A Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) administered Hardship Program was announced by Government on 2 September 2020. The Hardship Program provides interest-free loans and grants to support vulnerable Australians overseas.
 - i. On 16 August 2020, DFAT was asked to develop measures to expand support to Australians overseas. In preparing these measures, DFAT consulted the Department of Home Affairs, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Department of Finance, the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, and Services Australia.

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: International flight cap and additional support to states

Senator: Keneally

Question reference number: 0228

Type of question: Written 29 September 2020

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Tuesday 13 October 2020

Number of pages: 1

Question:

For each of the following, please provide the relevant dates the brief was prepared, the title of the brief, and to whom the brief was provided to:

- a. Briefs prepared for Ministers on the impact of introducing the international flight cap, before Prime Minister announced the cap on 10 July 2020.
- b. Briefs prepared internally in your Department for SES members on the impact of introducing the international flight cap, before Prime Minister announced the cap on 10 July 2020.
- c. Briefs prepared for Ministers on the impact of the international flight cap, from 10 July 2020 to 24 September 2020.
- d. Briefs prepared internally in your Department for SES members on the impact of international flight cap, 10 July 2020 to 24 September 2020.
- e. Briefs prepared for Ministers on options for the Commonwealth to provide additional support to the States to manage quarantine for international arrivals other than providing ADF personnel from 10 July 2020 to 24 September 2020.
- f. Briefs prepared internally in your Department for SES members on options for the Commonwealth to provide additional support to the States to manage quarantine for international arrivals other than providing ADF personnel from 10 July 2020 to 24 September 2020.

Answer:

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has provided briefings to the Prime Minister and SES members on international air passenger arrival caps and quarantine arrangements that are Cabinet protected. Beyond these, the only other briefing materials provided were those prepared for the 24 September hearing of the Senate Select Committee on COVID-19, and a brief to the Prime Minister on 2 July 2020 regarding the pause of international flights into Victoria.

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Policy, process or procedure for stranded Australians

Senator: Keneally

Question reference number: 0230

Type of question: Written 29 September 2020

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Tuesday 13 October 2020

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Is your agency aware of any Australian Government policy, process or procedure that is in place to ensure that stranded Australians will be prioritised over other potential entrants to Australia?

a. If yes:

- i. Can you name those policies, processes or procedures?
- ii. When did these policies, processes or procedures come into effect?

b. If no:

- i. Are any policies, processes or procedures being prepared to ensure that stranded?

Answer:

The Australian Government's primary commitment is to support Australians who wish to return to Australia. It is the clear expectation of the Prime Minister that returning Australian nationals and permanent residents take priority when utilising quarantine capacity.

This policy has been applied with the consideration of pilots for international students, which the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP, announced on 12 June 2020, and seasonal workers, which the Prime Minister announced on 21 August 2020. In both instances, the Prime Minister made clear that returning Australian nationals and permanent residents must take priority when it comes to utilising limited quarantine capacity. The Prime Minister also asked state and territory governments to work with airlines to ensure international students are placed on flights that have not exhausted their cap allocation, as advised by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Cities.

The Government is working urgently on a range of options for the return of Australians, including through commercial and facilitated flights.

Select Committee on COVID-19
Answers to questions on notice
Agriculture, Water and the Environment Portfolio

Committee: Select Committee on COVID-19
Inquiry: COVID-19
Question No: 1
Division/Agency: Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment
Topic: Request for relevant briefing dates regarding the international flight cap
Question Date: 29 September 2020
Question Type: Written

Senator Keneally asked:

1. For each of the following, please provide the relevant dates the brief was prepared, the title of the brief, and to whom the brief was provided to:
 - a. Briefs prepared for Ministers on the impact of introducing the international flight cap, before Prime Minister announced the cap on 10 July 2020.
 - b. Briefs prepared internally in your Department for SES members on the impact of introducing the international flight cap, before Prime Minister announced the cap on 10 July 2020.
 - c. Briefs prepared for Ministers on the impact of the international flight cap, from 10 July 2020 to 24 September 2020.
 - d. Briefs prepared internally in your Department for SES members on the impact of international flight cap, 10 July 2020 to 24 September 2020.
 - e. Briefs prepared for Ministers on options for the Commonwealth to provide additional support to the States to manage quarantine for international arrivals other than providing ADF personnel from 10 July 2020 to 24 September 2020.
 - f. Briefs prepared internally in your Department for SES members on options for the Commonwealth to provide additional support to the States to manage quarantine for international arrivals other than providing ADF personnel from 10 July 2020 to 24 September 2020.

Answer:

In response to Senator Keneally's questions outlined above (1a to 1e), the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE) has not provided briefs to Ministers, Australian Government Departments, or internally within DAWE in relation to the introduction, impact or options of the international flight cap.

In response to 1f, DAWE has not prepared briefs within our department for SES members on options for the Commonwealth to provide additional support to the States to manage quarantine for international arrivals.