HOME AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY WRITTEN QUESTION ON NOTICE

Select Committee COVID-19

QoN Number: CV19-387

Subject: FTE numbers of the ABF

Asked by: Kristina Keneally

Question:

How have the FTE numbers of the ABF changed during COVID-19 across Australia.
To help
illustrate, please provide the total number and FTE of Australian Border Force (ABF)
officers and staff in each State and Territory:
a. As at 30 June 2019;
b. 31 December 2019;
c. As at 30 June 2020; and
d. As at 1 October 2020.

Answer:

The ABF FTE numbers across Australia requested at particular points in time are
provided below:

State/ Territory/ OS	30 June 2019	31 December 2019	30 June 2020	1 October 2020
Australian Capital Territory	1,480	1,473	1,528	1,565
New South Wales	1,153	1,181	1,153	1,121
Northern Territory	152	136	130	128
Queensland	686	662	701	688
South Australia	191	192	191	197
Tasmania	12	10	13	13
Victoria	962	984	957	963
Western Australia	518	512	531	526
Total	**5,154**	**5,150**	**5,204**	**5,201**

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY WRITTEN QUESTION ON NOTICE

Select Committee COVID-19

QoN Number: CV19-408

Subject: Processing of Australia's Humanitarian Program

Asked by: Kristina Keneally

Question:

How has the processing of Australia's Humanitarian program changed since the advent of COVID-19?
a. Has the Department diverted any resources from Australia's humanitarian program to other tasks during COVID-19?
b. To help illustrate how processing of Australia's Humanitarian program has changed, please provide the following monthly data from July 2019 to August 2020:
i. Number of people granted entry into Australia through the Humanitarian program? Please provide a breakdown by visa class
ii. Number of people granted entry through a community support visa.
iii. Number of vulnerable women/child visas have been granted.
iv. The average staffing level of the team that Australia's Humanitarian program.
c. If this exact data is not available, please provide nearest comparable data.

Answer:

a. At the peak, 75 per cent of Australian-based staff from the overseas network were recalled to Australia, and 90 per cent of locally engaged staff (LES) were unable to attend work. At 21 September 2020, the onshore immigration delivery network was working at 77 per cent capacity due to staff being redeployed to other areas (including travel exemption processing), on leave or operating at reduced capacity.

b.i. Offshore Humanitarian Program Visa grants (July 2019-August 2020)

Grant Month	Refugee					SHP	Grand Total
	200	201	203	204	Total	202	
July 2019	376	15	0	58	449	463	**912**
Aug 2019	438	7	0	117	562	446	**1,008**
Sep 2019	370	52	0	58	480	585	**1,065**
Oct 2019	477	146	0	28	651	820	**1,471**
Nov 2019	651	178	0	101	930	545	**1,475**
Dec 2019	481	128	1	94	704	528	**1,232**
Jan 2020	490	186	4	144	824	650	**1,474**

Feb 2020	562	199		167	928	643	**1,571**
Mar 2020	478	280	7	106	871	419	**1,290**
Apr 2020	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
May 2020	3	4	0	5	12	0	**12**
Jun 2020	0	0	8	3	11	0	**11**
Jul 2020	9	0	0	0	9	1	**10**
Aug 2020	8	0	6	12	26	0	**26**
Grand Total	**4,343**	**1,195**	**26**	**893**	**6,457**	**5,100**	**11,557**

b.ii. Offshore Humanitarian - Community Support Program grants (Jul 2019-Aug 2020)

Grant Month	Grants
Jul 2019	99
Aug 2019	54
Sep 2019	28
Oct 2019	54
Nov 2019	46
Dec 2019	12
Jan 2020	14
Feb 2020	56
Mar 2020	54
April 2020	0
May 2020	0
Jun 2020	0
July 2020	0
Aug 2020	0
Total	**417**

b.iii. Offshore Humanitarian - Vulnerable Women and Children grants (Jul 2019-Aug 2020)

Grant Month	Refugee					SHP	Grand Total
	200	201	203	204	Total	202	
Jul 2019	0	0	0	58	58	0	**58**
Aug 2019	12	7	0	108	108	6	**133**
Sep 2019	10	49	0	57	57	10	**126**
Oct 2019	30	118	0	28	28	21	**197**
Nov 2019	21	124	0	101	101	14	**260**
Dec 2019	21	102	0	94	94	6	**223**
Jan 2020	84	160	3	140	140	25	**412**
Feb 2020	105	176	0	166	166	8	**455**
Mar 2020	71	269	7	105	105	21	**473**
Apr 2020	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
May 2020	0	0	0	5	5	0	**0**
Jun 2020	0	0	0	3	3	0	**5**
Jul 2020	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
Aug 2020	1	0	2	8	11	0	**11**
Grand Total	**355**	**1,005**	**12**	**873**	**2,245**	**111**	**2,356**

b.(iv). Departmental resources are flexibly allocated to manage demand and on-hand levels of all visa categories processed as well as non-processing activities for which an overseas post may be responsible.

Immediately before COVID-19, there were 47 LES indicatively deployed to process the Offshore Humanitarian Program. In addition, there were 12-15 Australian-based posted officers who were fully or partially responsible for managing the Program at various posts. Their responsibilities may also include non-processing activities such as liaison and representation.