

INQUIRY QUESTION

(Question No. 2)

Senator David Shoebridge asked the Department of Defence the following question, upon notice, on 01 March 2024:

Senator SHOEBRIDGE: Have you undertaken an analysis of the likely workload for Defence, the resource requirements for managing this permit system. If so, assumptions have you made in terms of the number of permits per year and the full-time equivalent staff levels.

Mr Nockels: Ms Wright will talk to the assumptions work that we did through the impact analysis. That's a piece of work that we had to do. Whenever you make an adjustment to an act, we need to go through that process. Ms Wright will talk to that and then I'll come back and talk to what we're doing in terms of how we're resourcing.

Mrs Wright: From a modelling impact I'll take on notice to provide you with the exact numbers. We have done extensive modelling that looks at the permits that come off because of no longer requiring a permit for transactions to the US and the UK, as well as the permits that would come into the system through the new offences. We will be able to provide that on notice, but a complex model sits behind that.

Senator SHOEBRIDGE: I'm not interested in knowing the algorithms behind the model, but you must have some indication of the kind of numbers. How many additional permits are you thinking will need to be generated and how many do you think, going forward, are likely to be no longer required? You must have some handle on it.

The Department of Defence has provided the following answer to the above question:

The Department of Defence undertook an Impact Analysis, assessed by the Office of Impact Analysis as 'Good Practice', prior to the introduction of the Defence Trade Controls Amendment Bill 2023 into Parliament on 30 November 2023.

The Impact Analysis included an analysis of the likely workload for Defence including resourcing requirements to manage the new permit types.

The Impact Analysis notes that some of the data obtained to inform the analysis of the likely workload for Defence cannot be released publicly due to the security classification of the information and the permitted legal reasons for using the data.

The Impact Analysis also outlines Defence's implementation approach and includes details on resourcing requirements.

Further information is available at: <https://oia.pmc.gov.au/published-impact-analyses-and-reports/defence-trade-controls-amendment-bill-2023>.