

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 27 February 2017

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE17/012) - Save the Children Settlement - Internal Product (DIBP)

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA 27) asked:

Senator KIM CARR: I am asking you to take that on notice. I would like to know how much the payments in regard to compensation are. Was the question there about record keeping? Wasn't the allegation that was made based on your assertion about the nature of records, and is that not directly pertinent to the capacity of this department—

Mr Pezzullo: If you review our statement, which was publicly released as part of the settlement, it does make reference to the fact that the two independent reviewers who looked at this matter, Mr Philip Moss initially and then Adjunct Professor Doogan more recently, could not find evidence of the matters that were the purported basis for the removal—a request that was put to Save the Children in relation to these employees. For that reason, the department has expressed its regret about that—the course of action that was taken, the denial of procedural fairness and the related point about documents.

Senator KIM CARR: Yes, and I am pleased that you have.

Mr Pezzullo: That was an important thing to do.

Senator KIM CARR: But that was not the question. If you cannot provide me with the individual breakdowns, then the aggregate breakdown of the compensation would be appropriate.

Mr Pezzullo: I will take that on notice.

Answer:

The Department's settlement with claimants totalled \$874,378.25, in full and final settlement of all claims. The payment made under the individual Deeds of Settlement was in full satisfaction of any claim for loss, damage, cost or expense in relation to their claims.