

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/194) PROGRAMME – Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

What is the current budget for operation Polaris?

What is the budget of operation Polaris over the forward estimates?

Where is it in the Budget 2014-15 papers?

How many staff are engaged in operation Polaris?

What is the current breakdown of staff for operation Polaris?

What is the projected breakdown of staff for operation Polaris over the forward estimates?

Answer:

The Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) has not been funded for Operation Polaris through a Budget measure. The ACBPS's role in operation Polaris is met from within the internal budget allocation for Compliance and Enforcement Operations.

No specific Budget funding has been provided to the ACBPS for Operation Polaris over the forward estimates.

The ACBPS has not been funded for Operation Polaris as part of a specific Budget measure and therefore ACBPS's funding in relation to Operation Polaris is not identified in the 2014-15 Budget papers.

The ACBPS contributes six Customs Officers to Operation Polaris:

- 1 x Manager – Customs Level 4 (Executive Level 1 equivalent)
- 2 x Investigators – Customs Level 3 (APS 6 equivalent)
- 3 x Analysts - 2 x Customs Level 3 (APS 6 equivalent) and 1 x Customs Level 2 (APS 4/5 equivalent)

ACBPS also provides Officers from line areas to support POLARIS operational activity as required.

There are no plans to increase or decrease the ACBPS resource allocation to the Polaris task force over the forward estimates.