

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/201) PROGRAMME – Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

Can you please expand upon the reference in QoN AE14/169 as to how the amalgamation and new agency will be the 'building block' upon which the new organisation is constructed?

When will further information regarding the new organisational model be available? Before 1 July 2015 when it becomes operational?

Is work already underway on the four dot points that outline what will be included in the new organisational model?

- a. ACBPS headquarters
- b. Transition of two Specialised Reform Taskforces
- c. Revenue and Trade Crime Task Force
- d. Creation of Technology Division

Answer:

QoN AE14/169 refers to the *Blueprint for Reform 2013-2018* as the building block on which the operational border protection services from the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) and the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (the department) will be consolidated into a single operational organisation within the department, called the Australian Border Force (ABF).

The Blueprint for Reform was released in July 2013 as the basis for discussion and design of the ACBPS reform programme. ACBPS has made a number of significant steps in its ongoing reform process since the release of the Blueprint for Reform. ACBPS received \$480.5 million over the forward estimates as part of the 2014-15 Budget to support further delivery of reform activities. The capability delivered through these reform activities will provide the platform for the consolidation of the operational border protection services of ACBPS and the department into the ABF.

The Portfolio Reform Task Force was established on 12 May 2014 to oversee both the ACBPS Reform Programme and consolidation of border protection services within the department, including the design of the ABF. A consolidated Executive Support Division will be established on 1 August 2014. Further activity is underway to develop a consolidated organisational model. This model will be available to staff ahead of 1 July 2015.

On 1 July 2014, the ACBPS launched a new operating model and implemented associated changes to the organisational structure.

- a. The ACBPS headquarters function was established on 1 July 2014. This function will evolve to become a portfolio capability with the establishment of the consolidated Executive Division on 1 August 2014.
- b. The Future Traveller Task Force transitioned to the Trade and Customs Division on 16 April 2014. On 1 July 2014 the ACBPS Border Force and College Task Force transitioned into routine business. The Border Force Division was established and the interim ACBPS College was launched and was transferred to the Learning and Development Branch within the Support Division.
- c. The Revenue and Trade Crime Task Force was established on 13 May 2014. The Technology Division was created on 1 July 2014.