

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/316) PROGRAMME – Operation Sovereign Borders

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

Senator Cash in Senate QT on Wednesday 11 December referred to a “standard post-incident operational assessment” that occur after an incident to ensure any future lessons learnt are incorporated into future practice.

- a. What are the requirements for a “standard post-incident operational assessment”?
- b. What is assessed?
- c. Who conducts the assessment?
- d. Is it internal or external (e.g. audit-like)?
- e. What timeline is provided for reporting?
- f. To who are they provided when complete? (e.g. Secretary, Minister, etc)
- g. How many of these “post incident operational assessments” have been conducted since 7 September 2013 to date?
- h. Was a post-incident operational assessment provided following the “incident” that involved asylum seekers landing on a beach on Christmas Island undetected?

Answer:

Reviews are conducted by Border Protection Command on a case-by-case basis. Such reviews are conducted to benefit future operations through the identification and capture of past lessons. The nature of any review is determined by the particulars of a specific incident. This may include localised processes, internal reviews, joint (or inter-agency) reviews or external reviews. The nature of these reviews also dictates the extent to which the reports are shared.

In addition to a Joint Review titled *Review of Operation Sovereign Border Vessel Positioning December 2013 – January 2014*, that has been publically announced, there have been a number of other minor reviews and assessments undertaken.

Whilst there is not an assessment standard in place, it is standard practice to review incidents. A post-incident operational assessment was provided following asylum seekers landing on a beach at Christmas Island.