

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

#### IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

#### **(BE14/598) PROGRAMME – Australian Customs and Border Protection Service**

Senator Whish-Wilson (Written) asked:

In terms of Southern Ocean vessel surveillance patrol days, there is a large drop off over the forward estimates, what is the explanation for this? (listed on page 103 of Immigration and Border Protection portfolio budget statements)

*Answer:*

The contract for Australian Customs and Border Protection Vessel *Ocean Protector* will terminate on 31 December 2014 and will not be renewed; as a result it will contribute only 92 patrol days in 2014-15.

In the 2012-13 Budget, the Government decided that Australian Defence Vessel (ADV) *Ocean Shield* would be shared between Defence and the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS), and would complete two 40 day patrols for ACBPS in 2014-15 and thereafter per every financial year.

As a result of these two measures, the patrol days required to be delivered by the Southern Ocean vessel dropped from 180 days in 2013-14 to 172 days in 2014-15, and thereafter, 80 patrol days per financial year.