

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 20 October 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE14/145) PROGRAMME – Operation Sovereign Borders

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

What is the protocol for information sharing within the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) and under OSB?

- (a) When is DIBP first notified of a tow-back occurring?
- (b) Is it before or after the Minister?
- (c) When DIBP is notified, who do DIBP have the authority to further notify?
- (d) What actions are taken by DIBP when a tow-back occurs?
- (e) What is the procedure within DIBP to ensure that these events are recorded?
- (f) What details of tow-backs are recorded by DIBP?
- (g) Are the identities of the persons on board known and recorded? Why/not?
- (h) What is DIBP's understanding of the legality of any directives from the Minister/Government relating to the recording of such information?

Answer:

Information is shared on a need to know basis according to the operational requirements of particular situations and in accordance with the Protective Security Policy Framework.

The actions portfolio is required to perform and the nature of the way they are performed differs depending on the demands and individual circumstances of a particular situation.