

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 OCTOBER 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE14/314) PROGRAMME – Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

Is there any actual or projected reduction in staff and/or resources dedicated to address economic risk at the border through compliance activity associated with:

- a. The transfer of the Anti-Dumping Commission from Customs to the Department of Industry;
- b. The creation of the Australian Border Force from July 2015 merging Customs and Border Protection and the Department of Immigration;
- c. The Ceasing of the operation of the Compliance Assurance Branch (CAB), on 30 June 2014?

Answer:

- a) On the 27 March 2014, 47 Australian Customs Border Protection Service (ACBPS) employees were transferred as a result of the Machinery of Government change under Section 72 of the *Public Service Act 1999 (the PS Act)* to the Department of Industry as part of the transfer of the Anti-Dumping Commission from ACBPS to the Department of Industry. There are currently no planned reductions at the Immigration and Border Protection Portfolio level as a result of this transfer.
- b) The Immigration and Border Protection portfolio manages workforce numbers in accordance with budget allocation. There are currently no actual or projected reductions in staff and/or resources or widespread voluntary redundancies as a result of the creation of the Australian Border Force from July 2015 merging ACBPS and the Department of Immigration and Border Protection. However, voluntary redundancies remain a valid workforce management strategy in the current employment framework.
- c) There are currently no planned reductions at the Immigration and Border Protection Portfolio level as a result of the ceasing of the Compliance Assurance Branch on 30 June 2014.