

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO

**Program: 1.1**

**Question No. SBE15/089**

**Senator Collins asked the following question at the hearing on 20 October 2015:**

1. Nepal has recently closed its borders to Australians seeking commercial surrogacy services in that country. Can you provide the number of babies born through surrogacy arrangements commissioned by Australian parents that are still in Nepal?
2. Can you provide the number of babies born through commercial surrogacy arrangements and commissioned by Australian parents that have been born overseas this year?
3. When will the Attorney-General respond to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs Roundtable on Surrogacy report tabled on 24 March 2015?
4. Will the Attorney-General commit to implementing the one recommendation contained in that report, to refer to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs an inquiry into the regulatory and legislative aspects of surrogacy arrangements with a focus on both domestic surrogacy arrangements and international surrogacy arrangements involving Australian nationals?

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

1. This is a matter for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
2. This is a matter for the Department of Immigration and Border Protection.
3. The Government is currently considering this recommendation and will respond in due course.
4. Please refer to answer 3.