

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 25 February 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE14/261) PROGRAMME – Operation Sovereign Borders

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

At page 166 of the MYEFO document it states that “The Government will provide \$19.9 million over four years for community engagement and communications activities to help prevent and disrupt maritime people smuggling activities.” Detail what community engagement and communications activities are currently being undertaken. Provide a breakdown of the \$19.9 million program.

Answer:

Community engagement activities are currently underway in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Indonesia and India.

Online communications activities are currently underway in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Vietnam and Thailand.

Under current planning, it is envisaged that the approximately \$20m will be spent as follows:

- \$12 million will be spent by December 2014 on communications activity.
- \$3 million will be spent over three years on the Community Liaison Officer Program in Indonesia.
- \$5 million will be spent over three years on the expansion of the public information campaign targeting crew in Indonesia.