

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 25 February 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE14/352) PROGRAMME – Operation Sovereign Borders

Senator Conroy (Written) asked:

Have any of the people intercepted by Australian vessels indicated to Australian personnel that they are seeking asylum?

Answer:

The answer to this question contains information pertaining to on-water and other operational activities, similar in nature to material which was subject to the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection's earlier claims of public interest immunity.

The Australian Government is confident in the legal basis to conduct Operation Sovereign Borders.