

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 17 OCTOBER 2011**

#### **IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

#### **(SE11/0019) Program: Internal Product**

Senator Hanson-Young (L&CA 43) asked:

Does the Department have a research unit? Has the research unit ever commissioned any work on the use of deterrents and what the possible responses are? If not, why not? What measurements are used to assess whether a policy is acting as a deterrent?

*Answer:*

The department has had a research unit since July 2008. The Unit conducts an annual program of commissioned research and evaluation to support policy development and program management. In addition, divisions of the department also conduct research on areas within their policy responsibilities.

The central research unit has not commissioned a specific research project on deterrents. Analysis about the deterrence effects is undertaken by the relevant policy and operational areas of the Commonwealth border protection agencies and is informed by a variety of sources such as intelligence, data from operational and client engagement, stakeholder consultation and administrative data.