

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION SERVICE**

**Question No. 139**

**Senator Humphries asked the following question at the hearing on 16 October 2012:**

Border Protection Command Running Costs

- 1) What is the cost of running Border Protection Command vessels per day? What is the total for the year?
- 2) What were the scheduled patrol days for the Border Protection Command vessels and what were the actual patrol days?
- 3) How much was spent on fuel for Border Protection Command vessels over the past 12 months? Did this exceed the budget?

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

- 1) What is the cost of running Border Protection Command vessels per day? What is the total for the year?**

The methodologies employed by Defence and the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) to estimate running costs are not directly comparable.

The approximate cost of running ACBPS vessels is shown in the following table.

Vessel	Running cost per patrol day as at 31 October*	Total vessel running cost from 1 July 2012 to 31 October 2012	Total forecast vessel running cost for FY2012-13
<i>ACV Ocean Protector</i>	\$ 353 566	\$ 16 264 051	\$ 42 469 259
<i>ACV Ashmore Guardian</i>	\$ 19 319	\$2 279 673	\$7 361 492
<i>ACV Triton</i>	\$97 283	\$8 950 005	\$27 707 889
<i>Bay Class Patrol Boat Fleet</i>	\$17 482	\$13 775 638	\$41 845 671
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 119 384 311</b>

\*Indicative only and includes crew costs. Actual daily running costs depend on the types of operational activity undertaken.

The approximate cost of running Defence Armidale Class Patrol Boats (ACPB) and hydrographic survey vessels per day is shown in the following table. (Indicative Only)

Vessel	Specific costs		Full cost			Total forecast vessel running cost for FY2012-13
	Additional cost (excl GST)	Direct cost (excl GST)	Full cost (excl GST)	GST	Daily rate (incl GST)	Daily rate x scheduled patrol days
Type	\$ / day	\$ / day	\$ / day	\$ / day	\$ / day	\$ / FY 2012-13
Armidale Class Patrol Boat	6,501	33,020	65,436	6,544	71,980	170,304,680
Hydrographic Survey Ship	14,987	127,658	227,831	22,783	250,614	61,400,430

Notes:

**TOTAL \$ 231 705 110**

**Additional cost** is an estimate of the marginal or extra costs incurred to undertake tasks additional to normally programmed activities. It may be used as an estimate of the extra direct running costs incurred by Navy to undertake additional activities. This additional cost rate is not to be used to calculate the net additional cost used during Defence Aid to Civil Communities (DACC) or Public Events of Significance (PES) activities.

**Direct Cost** is used for internal Defence costing activities. It includes the cost of fuel, ammunition, labour, Fleet Support Unit (FSU), rations supplier's expense, stores and repairs.

**Full Cost** is the sum of the direct, oncost and capital cost components.

**Daily Rates** include all costs over a Sea Day (24 Hours Steaming) only. The Daily Rate is the recovery rate to be levied on all Non Defence Organisations unless specific formal agreements to the contrary are in place. Hourly rates can be obtained by dividing the daily rate by 24.

**2) What were the scheduled patrol days for the Border Protection Command vessels and what were the actual patrol days?**

The scheduled patrol days for vessels assigned to Border Protection Command and the actual patrol days for FY 2012-13 to 31 October 2012 are as follows:

For ACBPS vessels (ACV *Ocean Protector*, ACV *Ashmore Guardian* and the *Bay Class Patrol Boat Fleet*) there were 1040 scheduled patrols days (PBS target) for FY 2012-13 to 31 October 2012. The actual number of patrol days achieved was 1044 days.

For Defence ACPBs there were 769 scheduled patrol days for FY 2012-13 to 31 October 2012. The actual number of patrol days achieved was 701 days.

A number of Defence Major Fleet Units have also contributed patrols days.

**3) How much was spent on fuel for Border Protection Command vessels over the past 12 months? Did this exceed the budget?**

During the past 12 months (from 1 November 2011 to 31 October 2012) Customs and Border Protection vessels under the operational control of BPC spent \$8 481 989 on diesel fuel. This was \$232 339 or 2.7% under the allocated budget for the period.

Defence fuel budgeting calculations are not broken down by operations, such as Op RESOLUTE. Therefore, fuel costs for ACPBs assigned to BPC are unable to be provided.