

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012**

**IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

**(SE12/0340) PROGRAM – 3.1: Border Management**

Senator Xenophon (L&CA 86) asked:

Provide the correspondence between the Qantas Group and the Department, that relates to the voluntary reporting arrangement.

*Answer:*

The establishment of voluntary reporting arrangements was established at a meeting held on 14 June 2012 between the Department and representatives from Qantas Group.

After the Qantas Group provided a report covering the first reporting period, on 24 August 2012 the Department wrote to the Qantas Group to clarify the reporting requirements discussed at the 14 June meeting. A copy of this correspondence is attached.



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Immigration and Citizenship**

24 August 2012

Steve Jackson  
Group Head, Security and Facilitation  
Qantas Airways Limited  
Building E - 203 Coward Street  
Mascot NSW 2020

Dear Mr Jackson

**Foreign Cabin Crew – Reporting Arrangements**

I am writing in regard to the reporting arrangements we are establishing around the use of Special Purpose visas (SPVs) for foreign cabin crew working on Qantas and Jetstar flights.

Thank you for the initial report, which we received on 13 July 2012. While the report provided information in regard to the number of domestic sectors a crew member worked on, I understand other aspects of the report remain outstanding. In particular, we are seeking to identify incidents where SPV holders have worked on domestic flights that are not part of the international flight on which they arrived or departed Australia.

While I understand the report may be delayed while ongoing working level discussions around the scope of this report occur, I am confident any necessary clarification can be achieved following the submission of the report. I would therefore appreciate receiving the full report without further delay.

This information will assist us in understanding how the SPV regulations are being understood and applied by Qantas and Jetstar. In this regard, I would also like to advise you that the Government is considering options in relation to a regulation change to the SPV provisions as they relate to aircrew. In particular, how the regulations might be clarified as to the circumstances in which an SPV holder may work while on an international flight.

I envisage that relevant consultations will form part of this process, and look forward to the participation of Qantas in due course.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Allen', written over a white rectangular area.

Stephen Allen  
First Assistant Secretary  
Border, Refugee and Onshore Services

**people** our business