

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 November 2013

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE13/0048) PROGRAM – Operation Sovereign Borders

Senator Singh (L&CA 87-88) asked:

Senator SINGH: But Operation Sovereign Borders is already in place. Mr Bowles: It is. Senator SINGH: Can you provide us with an aggregate figure? Mr Bowles: It is using the resources of the 16 departments and agencies that are involved, of which my portfolio—which is the Customs and Border Protection and the Immigration and Border Protection areas— Senator SINGH: I understand that, but what is the aggregate figure thus far, since it has been in place? Mr Bowles: I will take aggregates on notice. But what I am saying to you is, the final arrangements will come forward in MYEFO. So whatever I give now will not be correct. I will take it on notice.

Answer:

The budgets of the 16 agencies are the responsibility of the individual agencies. They are not amalgamated into a single Operation Sovereign Borders budget.

Since Additional Estimates were held in November the Government released the Mid-Year Economic Financial Outlook. Further detail can be found there.