

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 November 2013**

**IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO**

**(SE13/0204) PROGRAM – Internal Product**

Senator Ludwig (Written) asked:

Does the department consult or inform other departments or agencies when or before it makes a decision on a Freedom of Information request? a. If so, which departments or agencies? b. If so, when? c. If so, how does this occur?

*Answer:*

Yes

- a. The department would consult with any agency in the Commonwealth, or the States and Territories as applicable, if we hold documents relating to their function.
- b. The department will consult with other agencies where the documents of subject material within the scope of an FOI request relate to the functions of the other agency.
- c. Consultation takes place in line with the Guidelines published by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner. This would typically occur by email, however, this would vary based on the security classification of the documents in scope.