QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 17 October 2016

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE16/055) - Fair Work Ombudsman's report - backpackers working under a working holiday visa - Programme 2.3: Visas

Senator Pratt, Louise (L&CA 139/140) asked:

Senator PRATT: I want to ask about the Fair Work Ombudsman's report that was released recently that found that backpackers working under a working holiday visa had been sexually harassed and underpaid in many circumstances. When were you first briefed on the outcomes of that report? When was the minister or his office first briefed?

Mr Pezzullo: Mr Manthorpe has led our engagement with FWO's office. I might ask him to respond.

Mr Manthorpe: I would have to take on notice when the department at any level first became aware of that report. I became aware of it on Friday.

Answer:

The Department of Immigration and Border Protection first received the final outcomes of the Fair Work Ombudsman's 'Inquiry into the wages and conditions of people working under the 417 Working Holiday Visa Program' on Friday 14 October 2016. The Minister's office was informed of the impending release of the report on Friday 14 October 2016.