

Senate Economic References Committee

Future of Australia's naval shipbuilding industry – 20 June 2017

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Defence

Topic: Personnel

Question reference number: 9

Senator: The Committee

Type of question: provided in writing

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 14 July 2017

Question:

In 2009 there was a 'Moffitt Review' to address manpower shortages in the Collins Submarine force.

- a) What is the crew size of a Collins Class Submarine?
- b) How many complete Collins crews does the Navy currently have?
- c) What skills areas have shortages?
- d) What is the approximate crew size of the Future Submarine?
- e) What is the plan to build up the workforce for the Future Submarines?

Answer:

- (a) 58 personnel.
- (b) Specific details of submarine crew requirements are classified and cannot be provided, as this information would reveal critical aspects relating to the operational strength of the Australian submarine force.
- (c) Navy is unable to provide the requested detail due to the classification and sensitive nature of the information requested.
- (d) The Future Submarine program is in its initial design and development phase. The final size and makeup of the future crew is still under consideration.
- (e) Navy is executing a deliberate growth strategy for the uniformed workforce to assure the sustainment and operation of our submarine capability now, and to meet future force structure requirements. Specific details of the required growth rate for the uniformed submarine workforce are classified and cannot be provided, as this information would reveal critical aspects relating to the operational strength of the future Australian submarine force.