

**Question on notice no. 100**

**Portfolio question number: AE18/105**

**2017-18 Additional estimates**

**Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee, Home Affairs Portfolio**

**Senator Nick McKim:** asked the Australian Border Force on 26 February 2018—

How many boats have been intercepted under Operation Sovereign Borders since the last Senate Estimates?

- a. What were the dates of interception and return?
- b. How many people were on board? How many of these were children?
- c. In each instance, what processes were undertaken to find out whether anyone on board was in need of international protection?
- d. What countries were they returned to?

**Answer —**

Since the Senate Estimates in October 2017, one vessel was intercepted with 29 individuals on board (including two accompanied minors). All individuals intercepted are assessed on whether they engage Australia's protection obligations. All individuals were returned to Sri Lanka on 14 December 2017.