

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/008) PROGRAMME – Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

Senator Carr (L&CA 59) asked:

Senator KIM CARR: How much of that would be spent on establishing the new Strategic Border Command?

Mr Pezzullo: The component schedules are a little bit interdependent because, whilst a relatively modest amount—and I will have to get the precise amount for you on notice—goes to the physical layout—the desks, the room and the secure systems—the Strategic Border Command centre will have inside all of the systems that are provided under the intelligence and system funding, which is something like \$257 million. It starts to get interconnected and interdependent. So there are different ways to answer your question. If you are talking about the physical layout of the centre, that is one amount. But then you talk about the computers and the intelligence systems that sit behind the computers, and then you talk about the trained officers, and as you go through each of those measures the amount increases. But I can take that on notice and answer that in more detail.

Answer:

From 1 July 2014, the Strategic Border Command Centre (SBCC) will be housed in a Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) leased building in Civic, Australian Capital Territory. The SBCC will be co-located on a combined watch floor with the National Border Targeting Centre.

As of 30 June 2014 the cost involved in building and fitting out the combined watch floor is \$2 583 479 (including GST).

The increased staffing to operate the SBCC is being resourced internally by the ACBPS.