

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/226) PROGRAMME – Operation Sovereign Borders

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

How much money has been spent overall on communications and engagement to disrupt people smuggling?

- a. Please provide an update on whether additional funds have been provided since MYEFO and if these are reflected in the Budget?
- b. If so, can you please point me to where they can be found in the Budget papers?

Answer:

The Australian Customs and Border Protection Service was allocated \$20 million for community engagement and anti-people smuggling communication activities in key source and transit countries for potential illegal immigrants as part of the 2013-14 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO) measure *Operation Sovereign Borders – community engagement and strategic communications campaigns*. To date, \$6.3 million of the allocated \$20 million has been spent.

No additional funds have been provided since MYEFO.