QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/308) PROGRAMME – 2.1 and 2.2: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

In regard to the Offshore Biometrics Programme – expansion as detailed in budget paper no. 2 on page 154, can the department advise as to when this programme began?

a. Please explain the Budget for this programme in greater detail.

Answer:

The Offshore Biometrics Programme commenced in December 2010. The expansion of the Offshore Biometrics Programme will commence in the 2014-15 programme year.

a. Under the programme expansion commencing in 2014-15, savings of \$18.6 million will be generated by adopting a 'user-pays' arrangement and clients will pay for the collection of their biometrics.