

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/531) PROGRAMME – Internal Product

Senator Ludwig (Written) asked:

Other than for the purpose of discussing a transfer under section 16 of the Act, does the Department consult or inform other Departments or Agencies when it receives Freedom of Information requests?

If so, for each instance provide a table setting out the following information:

1. The Department or Agency which was consulted;
2. The document;
3. The purpose of the consultation;
4. Whether an extension of time was sought from the applicant to allow time for the consultation, including whether it was granted and the length of the extension;
5. Whether an extension of time was sought from the Information Commissioner to allow time for the consultation, including whether it was granted and the length of the extension

Answer:

Consistent with the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the Guidelines issued by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner, when a document that falls within the scope of a request contains material that relates to the function of another Commonwealth, State or Territory agency, the portfolio will consult that agency on that material.

It would be an unreasonable diversion of resources to provide the further level of detail requested.