QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 25 May 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE15/002) - Royal Commission - Child Abuse - Programme 1.3: Compliance and Detention

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA 18) asked:

Senator KIM CARR: That is right. So what hangs on this is whether or not there is an accurate record of this exchange with the commission prior to 23 February. You are saying that a request was received on 26 February; therefore your evidence stands. I am suggesting to you that there were prior requests from 23 February. I think what you are saying now is that as far back as September 2013 there have been requests.

Mr Pezzullo: Which is why on 23 February, in the very same document that you are making reference to, I said-and these were my words in response to, in fact, Senator Macdonald as the chair who asked me about the various matters-'A number of documents have been provided.' I said this to the committee on 23 February, 'A number of documents have been provided and we continue to engage in ongoing cooperation with the secretariat to the royal commission. As to the status of those documents and whether they were, as it were, compelled, that is an element that I will retain on formal notice and provide a written response to the committee. Yes, we have had dealings with the royal commission and have provided them with certain information. Subject to the privilege of that commission, I am just not quite sure what the rules are, and we will formally take on notice.' I said that on 23 February.

Answer:

The question taken on notice referred to by the Secretary was taken on notice at the Additional Estimates hearing on 23 February 2015 and received by the Committee on 21 April 2015. Refer to Additional Estimates response.