

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 25 May 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE15/026) - Asbestos - Programme 1.1: Border Enforcement

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA 67) asked:

Senator KIM CARR: There is a question. Has the department expressed a view about the importation of vehicles containing asbestos?

Ms Nyakuengama: Not that I am aware of. I will take that on notice.

Answer:

The importation of goods containing asbestos, including motor vehicles, is prohibited.

The Portfolio works with a range of stakeholders, including the motor vehicle industry, to ensure that imported goods do not contain asbestos. Ongoing engagement with industry significantly reduces the likelihood of illegal importations.

We have detected shipments of new vehicles with parts that contained asbestos. The vehicles were prevented from entering Australia until the identified parts were replaced.