

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 26 May 2015**

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

**(BE15/066) – Taxpayer’s money for IMAs - Programme 1.4: IMA Onshore Management**

Senator Macdonald, Ian (L&CA 38) asked:

CHAIR: My time has expired so I must pass on to someone else, but just coming back: I would really like to know what the process is for this taxpayers' money that ends up assisting illegal maritime arrivals with legal and migration assistance and what the process is on how the actual people who are giving the advice are selected and how they are paid. Can we have a case scenario on that as a question on notice?

Mr Manthorpe: We will take that on notice. We will be able to provide the public request for tender documentation, which I am sure will unpack much of that, and any further clarity we will take on notice as well.

*Answer:*

A Request for Tender (RFT) for the provision of PAIS services was advertised on Austender in August 2014. The successful tenderers published on the Austender website in April 2015 were Playfair Visa and Migration Services (Playfair) and the Refugee Advice & Casework Service (RACS). The RFT documentation was archived on the Austender website 30 days after its closing date.

The PAIS providers are paid a set fee per service and agreed expenses, if any (for example, translating and interpreting costs). The PAIS providers are paid after submitting an invoice to the Department for the services provided.