

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 26 May 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE15/079) - Special Envoy - Programme 2.1: Citizenship

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA 60) asked:

CHAIR: It may be that you might need to take this on notice, being a somewhat recent announcement, but what does a special envoy do? What is the role of the special envoy?

CHAIR: What I perhaps should have asked in the first instance is: have there been any particular parameters put in writing about the role of the special envoy, or is that yet to come?

CHAIR: Do you have anything in writing that can tell me the roles of the special envoy, or is that yet to come? Do you have them?

CHAIR: whether we know what the special envoy's role is—what his task is? Are there some specifics about what he will do, how he will do it and what his duties and powers are? I suspect they are not out yet, but I am asking you whether they are out. Do you have that detail?

CHAIR: I appreciate that, and I qualified my question, or gave you the qualification for my question, that it may be that with this just being announced that the detail is not there. But does the special envoy report to Senator Fierravanti-Wells or to the Prime Minister, or does Senator Fierravanti-Wells report to the special envoy?

Senator KIM CARR: Does he have any executive authority?

Senator KIM CARR: So he will have power to direct public servants?

Senator KIM CARR: Does he get to use Comcar?

Senator Cash: He is a parliamentarian; it is Philip Ruddock.

Senator KIM CARR: No, there are very strict entitlements on the use of Comcars.

Mr Pezzullo: On those specifics, I will have to take those questions on notice.

Senator KIM CARR: Does he get air travel?

Mr Pezzullo: I will have to take those questions on notice and potentially refer them to other departments. We will support the consultation process— CHAIR: Mr Pezzullo, I think you are coming back to the answer to my original question—that is, no, you do not have that detail yet; it will be worked through and provided to the committee later—if I could verbal you into that sort of answer.

Mr Pezzullo: We will take all of these questions on notice.

Answer:

This is a matter for the Special Minister of State.