

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 22 May 2017

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE17/034) - Tender for ABF Port, Harbour and Coastal small craft project - Internal Product (DIBP)

Senator Watt, Murray (L&CA 88) asked:

Senator WATT: So those vessels will be based in Far North Queensland?

Mr Quaedvlieg: No—well, possibly; there might be one or two. I will ask the deputy commissioner of support, shortly, to break down the variant of the vessels and whether we have allocated them to particular officers. I do not think we have done that just yet. I have asked for a more fundamental review of where our littoral water vessels are, so I can make a determination consistent with the secretary's earlier answers to this committee about where the highest priority is and where we can get the best bang for buck, if you will, for that capability.

In terms of Far North Queensland there is a separate procurement in place, which you may come onto, in a moment, in relation to an intermediate sized vessel—two of them, in fact, fast-response boats—but in relation to the port, coastal and harbour vessels we do have vessels of that size based at Thursday Island. I just do not know, in terms of this particular contract that you are referring to, whether they are intended to replace those vessels. I do not know their age. Perhaps Deputy Commissioner Newton can provide some more information on that.

Ms Newton: Yes. At the moment, seven of those craft will replace existing craft, at their use-by date, in multiple ports around the country.

Senator WATT: Are you able to say what those ports are?

Ms Newton: I do not have the details of the exact ports on me but a number of them are in Western Australia, Queensland and New South Wales.

Senator WATT: Could you take that on notice for us?

Ms Newton: Sure.

Answer:

11-12 metre vessels will be deployed in Brisbane, Sydney, Perth and Melbourne.

6-8 metre vessels will be deployed in Thursday Island, Darwin, Adelaide, Port Headland and Dampier.

4-4.5 metre vessels will be deployed in Darwin, Cairns, Broome and Weipa.

