

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 23 May 2017**

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

**(BE17/077) - 457 Changes - Minister Fifield's comments regarding unexpected consequences - Programme 2.3: Visas**

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA 14) asked:

Senator KIM CARR: What I am wondering about here are the unintended consequences of the government's measures. Certainly Minister Fifield has indicated that and other ministers have said this, Mr Pezzullo. Minister Fifield, for instance, said to us on 17 May that the list will be updated on 1 July—

Mr Pezzullo: And six months thereafter.

Senator KIM CARR: to address any unintended consequences.

Mr Pezzullo: That is what revised lists are for.

Senator KIM CARR: That is right—but its unintended consequences. Clearly, the government now acknowledges there were unintended consequences.

Mr Pezzullo: I have not seen the context of the minister's remarks. I will take that on notice.

*Answer:*

1. The Government announced on 18 April 2017 that the Short-term Skilled Occupation List (STSOL) would be reviewed every six months.
2. The timing and frequency of the review of the STSOL is to ensure that it remains contemporary, responds to changes, and accurately reflects the skills needed in the Australian labour market. It does not reflect Government view that the lists are revised to address unintended consequences.