

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 OCTOBER 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE14/115) PROGRAMME – Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

Since August 1 how many arrivals have been tested for Ebola?

Answer:

The Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) refers identified travellers for secondary health screening to Department of Agriculture officers at the border.

On 17 November 2014, the Commonwealth Department of Health advised that as at 12 November 2014,

“36 travellers, including health care workers returning from Ebola affected areas, have undergone the full screening process, including referral to Human Quarantine Officers for further advice. No travellers referred to Human Quarantine Officers, to date, have required referral to state or territory hospitals; all were released with information and advice on what to do should they begin to feel ill with relevant symptoms.”

And that,

“Between 16 April and 12 November, 12 people have been tested for Ebola in Australia. All tests were negative for Ebola.”