

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 OCTOBER 2014

#### IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

#### (SE14/126) PROGRAMME – Operation Sovereign Borders

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

Have there been any circumstances where it has been deemed unsafe to turn a boat around?

- a. What happens when the conditions are deemed unsafe?
- b. What happens to those on board?
- c. Are they removed from the original vessel?
- d. How many turnarounds have been attempted?
- e. How much do turn backs cost?
- f. Can the Government please provide a breakdown of these costs?
- g. Do these costs include the one-time use of the lifeboats?
- h. If not, what is the added cost of using a lifeboat?

*Answer:*

*a-d.* No. Suspected illegal entry vessels (SIEVs) have, and will only, be removed from Australian waters where it is safe to do so.

*e-h.* The cost of SIEV operations is not individually measured as the costs for responding to SIEV operations are not individually funded. Border Protection Command is funded to respond to its full range of national civil maritime security operations.