

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 19 October 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE15/044) - Hazara man on bridging visa - Programme 1.4: IMA Onshore Management

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah (L&CA 114) asked:

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: The information that I have is that he was a Hazara man on a bridging visa who feared being sent back to detention.

Mr Outram: I would not want to speculate on any of the details which will come out. What I can say is that—

CHAIR: Sorry, Mr Outram. There was not a question there.

Mr Pezzullo: I think in the circumstances that it is better for us to ascertain the facts, particularly if it is going to be subject to a coronial inquest, and for us to provide further and better information on notice as best we can.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Were you made aware of this before it was made public?

Mr Outram: I would have to take on notice the timing of when it was made public and the timing of when we became aware of it as a department. I am aware of it because I saw the media reporting on it, and of course we have done some of our own internal checks to see what we knew about this person. As the secretary said, it is all going to be subject to the coronial investigation now. No doubt all the facts, including the person's relationship with the department and other factors, will be taken into account in that process.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Could you take on notice, unless you are able to answer it now: was this man scheduled to be returned to immigration detention?

Mr Outram: We will take that on notice

Answer:

Mr Amini was lawfully in the community on a Bridging visa E (BVE) at the time of his death on 18 October 2015.

At the time of his death, full consideration had not been given to whether or not Mr Amini's BVE should be cancelled, due to him being charged by the NSW Police Force.

The Department was aware of Mr Amini's death before it was made public.