

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 17 October 2016

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE16/022) - Screening arrangements - Internal Product (DIBP)

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA 76) asked:

Senator KIM CARR: Thank you. I might return to the other line of inquiry. I did ask before if an officer was able to help me with whether or not it would take eight years to conclude the screening arrangements. Has that information been able to be provided?

Mr Pezzullo: We will see if Mr Hayward has gotten to the bottom of the reference at page 29, I think it was.

Senator KIM CARR: There are usually two ways of answering this question. One is that I have misread the information—which I take it you will be able to tell me—and the second is that you can actually go to the detail of what I have asked. Have I misrepresented the report?

Mr Pezzullo: We will see what Mr Hayward has to say.

Mr Hayward: The eight years that was quoted is a point in time. At that—

Senator KIM CARR: What point in time was it?

Mr Hayward: I would have to get you the exact date when the interview was, and I would take that on notice.

Answer:

The statement in the Rand report is based on an interview with the Department conducted on 14 June 2016. However, since the time of this interview, a range of process and ICT system improvements have been implemented by the Department to streamline its employment screening processes in line with government policy. These changes have delivered significant efficiencies which, in turn, are expected to reduce the overall time required to screen existing Departmental staff.