

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 17 October 2016

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE16/028) - Broadspectrum contract - Programme 1.5: IMA Offshore Management

Senator McKim, Nick (L&CA 81/82) asked:

Mr Nockels: The department has a direct contractual relationship with Broadspectrum or BRS, who in turn subcontract to Wilson. So the department did not specifically ask Wilson to commence an investigation.

Senator McKIM: Thank you. Did the department ask Broadspectrum to ask Wilson to commence an investigation?

Mr Nockels: To my understanding, that is not the case.

Senator McKIM: Not to your knowledge? Mr Pezzullo, to your knowledge, did the department ask Broadspectrum—

Mr Pezzullo: Certainly not to my knowledge. You are referring to documents released under FOI. I would have to refresh myself as to what those documents state to be entirely unequivocal. But, to my knowledge, no. It would be passing strange, frankly, for any such direction to be given to Wilson through BRS. But I will reacquaint myself with the release documents to ensure that that accords with the facts.

Senator McKIM: Thank you. If I could ask you to come back on notice with a response to that question.

Mr Pezzullo: We will come back on notice, yes.

Answer:

No. The Department sought confirmation from Broadspectrum on 1 July 2015 that the unauthorised release of information was being investigated. Broadspectrum subsequently confirmed that an investigation was underway.