

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 17 October 2016

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE16/162) - Conflicts of Interest - Internal Product (DIBP)

Senator McKim, Nick (L&CA) written:

1. Has the department identified any improper relationships or undeclared conflicts of interest between employees and contractors or potential contractors? Has any such misconduct been identified?
2. If so, what action did the department take? Have any staff members been the subject of disciplinary reaction or had their employment terminated?

Answer:

1. The Department assesses all claims of undeclared conflict of interest and investigates potential breaches accordingly.
2. Sanctions for failing to declare a conflict interest range from a formal written warning to termination of employment depending on the severity of the incident(s). There have been two cases since 1 July 2015 where employment has been terminated due to the persons concerned being found to be in breach of their obligations to declare a conflict of interest.