

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 25 February 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE14/11) PROGRAMME – Operation Sovereign Borders

Senator Carr (L&CA 16) asked:

Senator KIM CARR: Yes. This is a question that was asked by Senator Ludwig: 'Was the minister provided with a copy of the documents which were within the scope of the public interest Senate order which the government subsequently claimed public interest immunity over?' and the answer was: 'The Minister for Immigration and Border Protection was made aware of the documents and the categories in which they fell.' Can I reasonably conclude from that answer that the minister was not provided with the documents? [...]

Senator KIM CARR: I am going to come that in a minute. I ask the department: did they provide the minister with the document?

CHAIR: I think Mr Bowles said he would take it on notice.

Senator KIM CARR: He did not say that; he said he wanted to have a look at the answer.

Mr Bowles: I can have a look at the question, but I can take it on notice and try to come back to you before the end of the session if you would like.

Answer:

The Minister for Immigration and Border Protection was made aware of the documents.