QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES - 25 FEBRUARY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE14/256) PROGRAMME – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

Incident on 17 February: With regard to the Ministers statements released on Saturday evening, when was the Minister provided with this information?

What was the date?

What was the time of the day or night?

Did the minister receive this information earlier in the week or earlier in the day and decided to hold off from releasing it until 9pm on a Saturday night?

Where did this information come from?

Was information obtained from G4S staff and managers?

What was the nature of this information?

Who confirmed this information?

If not, why not?

Was information obtained from asylum seekers on Manus Is.?

What was the nature of this information?

Who confirmed this information?

If not, why not?

Was information obtained from the PNG Government?

What was the nature of this information? Who confirmed this information? If not, why not?

Answer:

As both the Papua New Guinea and Australian Governments have commissioned reviews into these events, the department is not able to comment until these reviews are finalised.