

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 25 February 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE14-394)

Senator Ludwig (Written) asked:

Question

What were the requirements listed for the tender or purchase arrangements of the Australian Customs Vessel (ACV) *Ocean Protector* or similar ships? How many people was it required to carry; where was it designed to work predominantly?

1. How many days since September 7th has it spent in the Southern oceans?

Answer:

The Australian Customs and Border Protection Vessel (ACV) *Ocean Protector* was originally required for Southern Ocean purposes; accommodation was included for illegal fishers as well as potential illegal immigrants given the need for the vessel to be able to respond to multiple maritime threats. The vessel can accommodate in excess of 200 people including crew.

1. No Southern Ocean patrols have taken place this financial year due to the requirement for ACV *Ocean Protector* to complete high priority taskings for Operation Sovereign Borders.