

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 November 2013

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE13/0125) PROGRAMME – ACBPS

Senator Rhiannon (Written) asked:

What dealings does the DIBP have with the Sri Lankan Navy?

Answer:

Direct dealings with the Sri Lankan Navy are usually facilitated by DFAT at post, rather than by ACBPS.

To implement the Bay Class gifting initiative, ACBPS officers are working directly with Sri Lankan Naval officers, both in Sri Lanka and in Australia, to provide technical information, assistance with familiarisation training, and to facilitate vessel transfer.

ACBPS has also engaged with the Sri Lankan Navy as part of an official visit to Sri Lanka to discuss people smuggling cooperation and the inaugural Sri Lanka-Australia Joint Working Group on People Smuggling and Transnational Crime.