

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 01

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic:** Search for Missing Indonesian Fishing Boat

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Milne asked:**

According to an AMSA media release dated 27 March 2001, AMSA 'assumed responsibility for the search for a missing Indonesian fishing boat believed to be about 40 to 50 nautical miles (70 to 90 kms) north of Christmas Island... and ships in the area have been advised by AusSAR to be on the look out for the missing boat... A spokesman for AuSSAR said the Indonesian search and rescue authority BASARNAS and the Indonesian Embassy in Canberra had been advised of the incident'.

- a.) What action was taken by AMSA in relation to the rescue at sea of this suspected illegal entry vessel?
- b.) will the Minister provide all records that are held by AMSA in relation to the rescue of this vessel - including a copy of the incident file & reports to BASARNAS and the Indonesian Embassy? and
- c.) will the Minister provide all records of telephone conversations held by AMSA in relation to the rescue of this vessel?

**Answer:**

- a) AMSA's Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC) was advised at 9.09 am Christmas Island time (12.09 pm EST) on 27 March 2001 by the police on Christmas Island about a local fishing boat rescuing two Indonesian fishermen from a makeshift raft. The fishermen reported that the day before they had left an Indonesian fishing vessel with approximately 20 people on board that had broken down and had been drifting for several days to the north of Christmas Island and it no longer had food or water on board. The Christmas Island police advised they had tasked another vessel in the area and an aircraft from Christmas Island to search for the fishing vessel.

The RCC issued a broadcast to shipping to keep a lookout for the fishing vessel. In case the police coordinated search did not find the fishing vessel, the RCC undertook some contingency planning by checking the availability of search assets, including checking with Coastwatch and the RAAF, checking the weather forecast for the search area with the Bureau of Meteorology and preparing drift planning.

After the aircraft from Christmas Island conducted the initial search and did not report having located the fishing vessel, the RCC accepted overall coordination of

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

the search and rescue operation at the request of the Christmas Island police from 1.36 pm Christmas Island time (4.36 pm EST) on 27 March 2001.

As Christmas Island is in the Indonesian internationally recognised search and rescue region, the RCC sent a facsimile to the Indonesian search and rescue authority, BASARNAS, and asked if it would undertake coordination of the search. The facsimile also was copied to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Indonesian Embassy in Australia. BASARNAS replied requesting RCC Australia to assist with the search and rescue of the fishing vessel.

The RCC tasked the aircraft from Christmas Island to undertake another search in the afternoon of 27 March 2001. Shortly after the aircraft left Christmas Island, it reported locating the fishing vessel. The Christmas Island police arranged for the police rescue vessel to rendezvous with the fishing vessel. The Christmas Island police confirmed the safety of the 22 people on board and that the fishing vessel was seaworthy, so it could be towed to Christmas Island. The Christmas Island police then accepted transfer of the overall coordination of the search and rescue operation from the RCC.

- b) Yes, AMSA's records are on the RCC incident file, **a copy of which is being supplied** to the Committee.
  
- b) Yes, AMSA's records of telephone conversations are included on the incident file, **a copy of which is being supplied** to the Committee.

**[AMSA 01 attachment not included. Available from committee secretariat on request]**

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 02

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic:** Rescue of Illegal Entry Vessels

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Milne asked:**

Between 1 January 1999 and 25 August 2001 - that is prior to the rescue of *KM Palapa 1* by the *Tampa* in August 2001 - how many suspected illegal entry vessels had required rescue by AMSA?

- a) How many had been the subject of a broadcast to shipping? Please give details for each vessel.

**Answer:**

AMSA does not maintain a separate record of suspected illegal entry vessels that have required rescue operations or that have been subject to a broadcast to shipping.

AMSA's Rescue Coordination Centre processes in excess of 10,000 incidents annually, with approximately 500 requiring search activity. AMSA would have to examine each incident to establish if it involved a suspected illegal entry vessel. This would represent a significant and inappropriate diversion of AMSA resources from its safety responsibilities.

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 03

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic:** Sunken Illegal Entry Vessels

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Milne asked:**

To your knowledge, how many suspected illegal entry vessels have sunk en route to Australia? Please give details of dates, vessels and passenger numbers if known.

**Answer:**

AMSA does not maintain any record that would indicate the number of suspected illegal entry vessels that have sunk en route to Australia and their details, apart from the record of such vessels in the report of the Senate Select Committee on a Certain Maritime Incident of October 2002.

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 04

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic: Recruitment Agency Spending**

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Wong asked:**

What sum was spent on recruitment agencies in 2006 by each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio?

**Answer:**

\$40,000

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 05

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic: Recruitment Agency Spending**

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Wong asked:**

Will the Minister provide a list of the recruitment agencies which are used by the Department and Agencies in the Minister's portfolio?

**Answer:**

Cordiner King.

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 06

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic: Recruitment Agency Spending**

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Wong asked:**

What functions do recruitment agencies perform for Departments and what would be the likely impact on departmental outcomes from reduction in recruitment spending on external agencies?

**Answer:**

All recruitment matters are managed by AMSA's human resources unit with the exception of the recruitment process for the AMSA CEO.

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 07

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic: Recruitment Agency Spending**

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Wong asked:**

What benefit-cost assessments have been done which benchmark internal recruitment processes and/or on utilising on line recruitment portals?

**Answer:**

None



**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 08

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic:** Opinion Polls/Market Research

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Wong asked:**

What sum was spent on opinion polls, focus groups or market research in 2006 by each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio?

**Answer:**

Nil

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 09

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic:** Opinion Polls/Market Research

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Wong asked:**

Will the Ministers provide a list of the opinion polls, focus groups, or market research agencies what are used by Department and Agencies in the Minister's portfolio?

**Answer:**

Not applicable to AMSA.

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 10

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic:** Opinion Polls/Market Research

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Wong asked:**

How much of the opinion polls, focus groups or market research expenditure of Agencies or Departments was conducted at the request of the Minister's office?

**Answer:**

Nil

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 11

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic:** Opinion Polls/Market Research

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Wong asked:**

What benefit-cost assessments have been done which assess the returns from opinion polls, focus groups or market research?

**Answer:**

Nil

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 12

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic:** Advertising Campaigns

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Wong asked:**

What sum was spent on each of the active advertising campaigns for each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio?

**Answer:**

Nil

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 13

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic:** Advertising Campaigns

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Wong asked:**

Below is a list of active campaigns that were tabled on 30 October 2006 at Senate Estimates, what were the actual costs for those which have been completed as relevant to each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio?

- Bushfire Preparedness - AGD
- People Trafficking - AGD
- Family Law Reform - AGD/FACSIA
- Bird Flu (05/06) - AQIS
- Quarantine Matters! (Jul 06 – Dec 06) - AQIS
- 30% Childcare Tax Rebate - ATO
- Defence Force Recruiting (2006-2007) - Defence
- Skills For the Future - DEST
- Welfare to Work - DEWR
- Citizenship (06/07) - DIMA
- T3 - DOFA
- Eliminating Violence Against Women (2006) - FACSIA
- Financial Literacy - Treasury

**Answer:**

Not applicable to AMSA.

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 14

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic:** Advertising Campaigns

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Wong asked:**

At the Budget Estimates in May 2006, the Budget Papers listed the following Pending Campaigns (from Budget Papers: period up to 4 years)

<b>Campaign</b>	<b>\$Million</b>
Smart Card	47.3
Child Support Reform	36.1
Promote Private Health Cover	52.1
Medicare direct mail	17.5
New family law arrangements	19.9
Independent contractors	<15
Pensions real estate/assets test	5.9 (at least, over 2 years)
Smart Traveller	13.1
Alcohol abuse	25.2
Citizenship	4
Disease risk factors	
Child care rebate	
Family Law arrangements	
Illicit drugs and mental illness	
Living in Harmony Initiative	

For those campaigns which are relevant to each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio, what is the:

- (a) planning progress for campaigns;
- (b) likely start dates; and
- (c) media spend.

**Answer:**

Not applicable to AMSA.

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 15

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic:** Advertising Campaigns

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Wong asked:**

For Campaign Advertising in each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio, what is the:

- (a) cost;
- (b) frequency; and
- (c) type/medium (e.g. print, television, radio) of campaign advertising for this financial year?

Can this information be provided on a monthly basis for the financial year?

**Answer:**

Not applicable to AMSA.



**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 16

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic:** Water Use in Departments and Agencies

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Wong asked:**

Is there any requirement to provide details of how much water is used and how much water is saved in the annual reports of each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio?

**Answer:**

There is no requirement for inclusion in AMSA's Annual Report.

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 17

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic:** Water Use in Departments and Agencies

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Wong asked:**

Is water usage monitored for each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio?

**Answer:**

No, water usage is not monitored for AMSA.

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 18

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic:** Water Use in Departments and Agencies

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Wong asked:**

What is the water usage for each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio?

**Answer:**

Water usage is not monitored for AMSA.

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 19

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic:** Water Use in Departments and Agencies

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Wong asked:**

For each Department and Agency in the Minister's portfolio, can information be provided on whether dual flush toilets are in place in the buildings they occupy?

**Answer:**

None of the buildings in which AMSA leases or owns office space have dual flush toilets installed for general staff use, except the building in Melbourne, in which space is leased for one of AMSA's regional offices.

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 20

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic:** Grants

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Ludwig asked:**

With regard to all grants allocated by the Department/Agency from 1 January 2002, could a table detailing the following information be provided:

- a. The name of the grant program
- b. The name of the grant recipient
- c. The ABN of the grant recipient (where available)
- d. The value of the grant awarded
- e. The date the grant was awarded
- f. The state of the grant recipient
- g. The postcode of the grant recipient

**Answer:**

Not applicable to AMSA.

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Transport and Regional Services**

**Question:** AMSA 21

**Division/Agency:** Australian Maritime Safety Authority

**Topic:** Staffing

**Hansard Page:** Written Question

**Senator Ludwig asked:**

For the years 2005-06, please indicate:

1. Not including those employed in policy functions, the number of Full-Time Equivalent positions assigned to the following areas:
  - a. Marine environment protection;
  - b. Search and rescue;
  - c. The development of technology or programs designed to augment, replace or assist any of the above functions;
2. For each of the categories in (1), please indicate:
  - a. The breakdown of APS classifications for those personnel;
  - b. The total wages cost of all personnel under that category;

**Answer:**

1. AMSA's Emergency Response business unit delivers AMSA's search and rescue coordination output and AMSA's marine pollution response output. It employs 70 Full Time Equivalent staff, including four senior and executive managers. The table below provides the number of staff in each area.

AMSA's Corporate business unit provides corporate services to AMSA's business units, including human resources, finance, information technology, business services, property management and other general support. The level of Corporate staff involved with the Emergency Response business unit varies depending on the projects and activity for which these support services are provided. The table below therefore does not include any Corporate staff.

2. As AMSA's staff are employed under the *Australian Maritime Safety Authority Act 1990* and not the *Public Service Act 1999*, the APS classifications do not apply. The table below provides the AMSA categories of staff and the salary range currently applicable to each category under the *Australian Maritime Safety Authority Certified Agreement 2006-2009*.

Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates February 2007

Transport and Regional Services

**AMSA's Emergency Response Business Unit Staff**

AMSA Category	Number of Staff	Range of Mid-Point Annual Salaries (March 2007)
<b>Marine Environment Protection</b>		
AMSA Level 7	3	\$84,216 upwards
AMSA Level 6	0	\$72,211 to \$84,215
AMSA Level 5	3	\$59,198 to \$72,210
AMSA Level 4	2	\$50,874 to \$59,197
AMSA Level 3	1	\$44,093 to \$50,873
AMSA Level 2	1	\$38,710 to \$44,092
AMSA Level 1	0	\$34,202 to \$38,709
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10</b>	
<b>Search and Rescue Coordination</b>		
ERC Chief	4	\$94,521 plus \$20,795 per annum shift work allowance
Senior Search and Rescue Officer (AMSA Level 6)	12	\$84,215 plus \$22,462 per annum shift work allowance
Search and Rescue Officer (AMSA Level 5)	23	\$68,002 plus \$27,816 per annum shift work allowance
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>39</b>	
<b>Administrative and Support Staff</b>		
AMSA Level 7	5	\$84,216 upwards
AMSA Level 6	6	\$72,211 to \$84,215
AMSA Level 5	2	\$59,198 to \$72,210
AMSA Level 4	2	\$50,874 to \$59,197
AMSA Level 3	0	\$44,093 to \$50,873
AMSA Level 2	1	\$38,710 to \$44,092
AMSA Level 1	1	\$34,202 to \$38,709
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>	