

Immigration and Border Protection Portfolio

SENATE QUESTION

(Question No. 2451)

Senator Sue Lines asked Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, upon notice, on 25 June 2015:

- (1) Can the Minister provide the number of bridging visas granted in 2014.
- (2) Were the deaths of any people holding bridging visas reported to the Department during 2014.
- (3) Are records kept as to the cause of the deaths referred to in paragraph 2; if so, how many were deemed suicides.
- (4) Can the Minister provide the number of bridging visas granted in 2015 to date.
- (5) Were the deaths of any people holding bridging visas reported to the Department during 2015.
- (6) Are records kept as to the cause of the deaths referred to in paragraph 5; if so, how many were deemed suicides.

Senator Cash – The answer to the Honourable Senator’s question is:

- (1) In 2014, there were 3543 Bridging Visa E (BVE) Initial Grants and 10 427 BVE Re-grants to Illegal Maritime Arrivals (IMAs).
- (2) In 2014, there were nine (9) incidents of deaths of people holding bridging visas that were reported to the Department.
- (3) The cause of a person’s death in unusual circumstances in Australia is determined by a Coroner.
- (4) Between 1 January 2015 and 26 June 2015, there have been 3344 BVE Initial Grants and 9 924 BVE Re-grants to Illegal Maritime Arrivals.
- (5) Between 1 January 2015 and 26 June 2015, there have been a total of six (6) incidents of deaths of people holding bridging visas that were reported to the Department.
- (6) The cause of a person’s death in unusual circumstances in Australia is determined by a Coroner.