

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 FEBRUARY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(142) Program 3.1: Border Management

Senator Cash asked:

What accounts have been provided by IMA's regarding representations made to them by people smugglers regarding the likelihood of their obtaining permanent residency or citizenship in Australia?

Answer:

Approximately five percent of the IMAs said people smugglers indicated they would get permanent residence or citizenship. Mostly, however, people smugglers said Australia was a democratic country which accepts refugees and will treat them fairly. Some IMAs indicated they were told nothing about Australia by the people smugglers.