

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 21 FEBRUARY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(224) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash asked:

- 1) In terms of the Scherger facility being used as a short term detention centre – what time frame was anticipated by the Department in the first instance?
- 2) When was it determined that this time frame would be extended?

Answer:

- 1) Scherger was originally intended to be adapted for short term use of approximately six months while additional accommodation was under construction at various sites in the detention network.
- 2) Following a request from the local community, Minister Chris Bowen announced on 3 March 2011 that Scherger would be extended.