

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 FEBRUARY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE12/0334) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash asked:

With reference to the following statement in MYEFO: “onshore processing costs related to irregular maritime arrivals are expected to increase by \$1.3 billion over four years as a result of an increase in expected arrival rates compared to those at Budget. This is partly offset by \$1.1 billion in reduced costs and savings associated with not progressing offshore processing arrangements at this time, leaving a net impact on the budget of \$197 million over four years”. How many IMAs has the Government predicted will arrive during the 2011-12 financial year?

Answer:

The MYEFO adjustment takes into account the policy announcement of onshore processing arrangements.

As at November 2011 the forecast Irregular Maritime Arrival estimate for the 2011-12 financial year was 5645.