

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0019) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Hanson-Young (L&CA 28) asked:

Please explain why the release of the December Detention Statistics was a month late.

Answer:

The immigration detention population is highly dynamic and the statistics within the Immigration Detention Statistics Summary are sourced from several departmental processing and recording systems. In order to ensure the report is accurate, the department undertakes a range of quality assurance processes prior to publication. The time taken to publish the report can vary from month to month depending on the number of data irregularities identified during the quality assurance process.

The 31 December 2012 report was finalised and became available for publication in late January 2013.