QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0341) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

How many children have arrived as IMAs since 2008 to the current date? How many have been unaccompanied minors? How many of those were subject to an age determination process? How many were found to be older than 18 years of age as a result of that process or other information?

Answer:

According to departmental systems, between September 2008 and 11 February 2013, 4,972 clients (including 243 Suspected Illegal Entry Vessel crew) aged 17 years and under arrived as IMAs. Of these, 2,479 (including 214 SIEV crew) claimed to be unaccompanied minors.

Between the formal commencement of the age determination process on 5 August 2011 and 11 February 2013, 1,243 age determination assessments were conducted for IMA clients. Of these, 595 were assessed as adults.