

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0345) PROGRAM – Internal Product

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

How many IMA's who have completed their IMR review and have a negative RSA are seeking further review in the courts or the RRT? Who is paying their legal expenses?

Answer:

As at 31 December 2012, there were 147 matters in the Federal Magistrates' Court (FMC), 31 matters in the Federal Court (FC) and seven matters in the High Court where persons with a negative independent merits review assessment are seeking further review in the courts. There were 15 matters in the FMC relating to IMAs who had sought judicial review of protection visa decisions made by the Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT).

The RRT advised the Senate Estimates Committee on 11 February 2013 that, as at 31 December 2012, there were 738 active matters involving IMAs seeking merits review of decisions on their protection visa applications in the RRT.

The question concerning payment of legal expenses has previously been answered in the response to Question on Notice SE 12/0050.