

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0505) PROGRAM – 4.1: Visa Compliance and Status Resolution

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

What consultation does DIAC require from the Red Cross about decisions on providing accommodation to asylum seekers on bridging visas under the Community Assistance Support scheme? Does this accommodation require approval from DIAC before it is provided to asylum seekers?

Answer:

Red Cross is not required to consult with DIAC about decisions on providing accommodation to asylum seekers on bridging visas under the Community Assistance Support program.

All service providers contracted to deliver the suite of services under the Community Assistance Support (CAS) program or the Asylum Seeker Assistance Scheme (ASAS) are contracted to perform services in accordance with operational guidelines that require the provider to comply with relevant legislation and standards, including State government requirements relating to tenancies and boarding houses.

Service providers are responsible for monitoring the standard of accommodation that asylum seekers are placed in to ensure that it is safe and appropriate.