

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 25 February 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE14-348)

Senator Conroy (Written) asked:

The Sydney Morning Herald reported on 16 January that a local police officer from southern Java said, “There were four children, the youngest was 1 ½ years; there were men and women.” Who is responsible for the safety of these children once they are picked up by Australian vessels?

Answer:

Without commenting on the substance of the claims in the article cited, generally speaking the Australian Government is responsible for the safety of persons while they are under Australia’s control.