

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27 MAY 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(94) Program 3.1: Border Management

Senator Humphries (L&C 65) asked:

- (1) How many IMAs in the course of this financial year have had ASIO security checks?
- (2) How many have received negative assessments?
- (3) Are there any cases in which ASIO has changed its assessment in the light of later information or for any other reasons?

Answer:

(1) ASIO has advised the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) that, from 1 July 2009 to 16 June 2010, it has conducted 2694 security assessments in respect of irregular maritime arrivals (IMAs).

(2) During 2009-10, DIAC was advised by ASIO of the issue of one adverse security assessment in respect of an irregular maritime arrival (IMA).

During the same period, DIAC was also advised by ASIO of the issue of four adverse security assessments in respect of four individuals from the Oceanic Viking caseload. These people are not irregular maritime arrivals.

(3) DIAC is not aware of any advice from ASIO indicating that it changed its security assessment for any irregular maritime arrival in the light of later information or for any other reasons.