

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 24 MAY 2011**

**IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

**(BE11/0264) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Cash asked:

How long are unaccompanied humanitarian minors held in community detention?

*Answer:*

Unaccompanied minors will generally remain in community detention until their immigration status is resolved, whether by grant of a visa or removal from Australia.

Where an unaccompanied minor is granted a visa, the Department endeavours to settle them as soon as possible. However, they may remain in the same accommodation as their community detention placement for up to four weeks while appropriate care and accommodation arrangements are made and to assist the person with their transition into settlement.