

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0592) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash asked:

What tests were undertaken and how reliable are those tests? What are the results of those tests?

Answer:

Where it is not clear whether a client is over or under 18 years of age, the Department seeks to establish this by taking into account a range of information, including information provided in client interviews, any documents or reports a client might provide, advice from family members and so on. Checking of claims is undertaken in accordance with the Department's obligations under the *Privacy Act 1988*. The Department also works with clients to locate any documentation which may be relevant to establishing their identity.