

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 24 MAY 2011**

#### **IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

#### **(BE11/0597) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Cash asked:

I refer to the answer given to QoN 205 from the February Additional Estimates, which states that the Melbourne Immigration Transit Accommodation Centre houses 124 male detainees. Of that 124, 58 are 17 years of age, compared to five 15 year olds, and one 19 year old, and two 20 year olds.

What specific testing has been done on each of the 124 detainees at MITA?

*Answer:*

If the question refers to consideration of matters relating to age, the Department can advise that there has not been, nor will there be "specific testing" of all clients at the Melbourne Immigration Transit Accommodation centre (MITA). There may be some clients at the MITA who have had age considered as part of efforts to establish identity, but the Department does not keep separate statistics on the number of cases where age determination processes have been undertaken. Age is just one aspect of identity that the Department seeks to establish in relation to undocumented clients.