

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 23-24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0624) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash asked:

With reference to the incident where immigration officials were forced to take asylum-seekers off a flight from Christmas Island to the mainland after the charter pilot expressed concern some had not passed health checks. What was the composition of these asylum seekers and their age and nationality?

Answer:

Twelve clients were taken off the flight.

The composition of these clients is as follows: 10 males, two females, all Afghani. Ten were children; two were adults.