

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 23-24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0748) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash (L&CA 131) asked:

Could you check with your office in Perth to see whether or not – if local parishioners, so church communities, have asked the department to use rooms in their homes to house people who need a home under this settlement program. If they are, how is this occurring and where are the locations?

Answer:

In relation to the community detention program, the Department provided the details of a house offered by a local parishioner during a community consultation in early 2011 to the Red Cross. The Red Cross is responsible for the sourcing of accommodation for use in the community detention program (which is not a settlement program).

The Red Cross has advised that the house offered was not suitable for community detention as it was considered too far from necessary services.