

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21-22 MAY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE12/0057) Program: Internal Product

Senator Cash asked:

Media visit: I refer to comments by ABC journalist Leigh Sales on ABC's The Drum website where she reported she had tried to gain access to Inverbrackie Alternative Place of Detention, a low security facility in South Australia, which accommodates families waiting for community housing, but had met with refusal, even after offering to visit Inverbrackie under the same restrictions imposed on her by Guantanamo Bay – which she had twice been allowed to visit and take video footage (under certain conditions)? On what basis was Ms Sale's refused access?

Answer:

The refusal of access was based on operational considerations at the time.