

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21-22 MAY 2012**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(BE12/0407) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network**

Senator Cash (L&CA page no. 96) asked:

What percentage of the caseload on bridging visas do you assume will not require support? Is there a level that the department is working towards?

*Answer:*

The proportion of clients granted Bridging Visas who might require support depends on a range of factors, including family composition, physical and mental health, sources of support in the community, levels of English language proficiency and so on. As a result, the department does not make an assumption as to what percentage of the client group at any one time might require support. The support provided is calibrated to the needs of the client and so not all clients receive the same level of support. It follows that the department is not working towards a particular level of clients not requiring support, as this is assessed on a case by case basis and is influenced by the factors outlined above, among others.