

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

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

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(BE12/0418) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Cash (L&CA 106) asked:

What is the extent of the department's liability in relation to those in the homestay network?

If something went wrong, what is the exposure of the department in terms of a potential action because, ultimately, that is the exposure of the taxpayer?

*Answer:*

It is the Department's position that it has no liability in relation to the Community Placement Network, but rather any liability would lie with the Australian Red Cross as the contracted Community Assistance Support (CAS) service provider.