

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 May 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE13/0125) PROGRAM – 4.1: Visa Compliance and Status Resolution

Senator Cash (L&CA 55) asked:

Senator CASH: The reintegration package, yes. I just need to be sure about what I have asked you. How many people has the department recorded as having previously arrived in Australia by boat seeking asylum who have been rejected and then returned, outside those that I have already asked you for, which is those who received the integration package? There will be two separate statistics.

Answer:

The Department is aware that from time to time failed asylum seekers who departed Australia (after arriving in the 1990s to early 2000s) have returned and sought a reintegration package to depart a second time. This information comes to light when assessing current eligibility for reintegration assistance. The Department, however, does not record this information in a consolidated manner and the considerable resources required to collate the information could not be justified.