

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 28 May 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE13/0199) PROGRAM – 4.1: Visa Compliance and Status Resolution

Senator Boyce (L&CA 117) asked:

Senator BOYCE: How many asylum seekers are there currently in Australia who have lost their asylum seeker assistance scheme payments at that seven-day cut-off point?

Mr Callanan: I think we would have to take that on notice to be precise.

Mr Bowles: It would be some hundreds. I think from memory that it was in the high hundreds the last time I saw those numbers.

Dr Southern: Around 1,000, I think.

Mr Bowles: Yes, I think it is just less than 1,000.

Senator BOYCE: And in every state?

Mr Bowles: It would be speculation, but we can take that on notice.

Answer:

As at 28 May 2013, for the 2012-13 financial year, 446 asylum seekers had their Asylum Seeker Assistance scheme payments ceased following a negative merits review decision.

Please find below the breakdown by state for the 446 asylum seekers mentioned above:

State/Territory	Clients
ACT	1
NSW	160
NT	10
QLD	40
SA	21
TAS	1
VIC	169
WA	44
Grand Total	446