

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 May 2013**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(BE13/0438) PROGRAM – 4.2: Onshore Detention Network**

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

The report notes that “IMAs are now better educated about the importance of providing identifying documentation and its value in aiding the timely processing of claims. This has been reflected by a significant increase in the number of clients providing identity documentation” pg. 18. Please elaborate on that statement – what has been the actual increase in statistical terms in clients providing identity documentation?

*Answer:*

The department is unable to provide this level of statistical data. The department can however advise that during the second half of the 2011/12 financial year, following an increased focus on identity for IMAs in detention, between 5000-6000 emails containing copies of identity documents were received each month by the centralised identity mailbox (note these are not originals). This stabilised at around 1000 per month during the majority of the 2012/13 financial year, however in the past five months has risen again to over 4000 per month (since March 2013).

Where IMAs are granted a BVE, identity continues to be pursued through normal status resolution processes. We are unable to report on the number of identity documents collected through these processes.