

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(101) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash (L&CA 102-103) asked:

When did the department provide advice to the Minister on the regional processing centre prior to the announcement being made? If it was on more than one occasion, please provide the dates.

In terms of the advice that the department provided to the government on previous occasions or prior to the announcement being made, was any advice provided to the government during the time Prime Minister Rudd was in office?

Answer:

A range of advice was provided to Government on the concepts of the Regional Protection Framework from 2009 onwards. As this advice supported Cabinet deliberations, the department is unable to provide any further details on this matter.