

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(308) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash asked:

Is the Government considering releasing any of the asylum seekers currently detained into the community pending resolution of the accommodation crisis?

Answer:

The decision to make a residence determination for a client is based entirely on the suitability and vulnerability of a client. All irregular maritime arrivals will continue to be detained at Christmas Island when they first arrive in Australia for the management of health, identity and security risks assessments prior to any placement into the community.