

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 17 OCTOBER 2011**

**IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

**(SE11/0009) Program: Internal Product**

Senator Hanson-Young (L&CA 43) asked:

When was the current policy in relation to media access to detainees developed?

*Answer:*

Development of the department's current policy in relation to media access to detention facilities began in mid 2011. Following a direct request from the Minister for a more open and accountable system to allow for greater access to the media, the new policy went live on the department's website on 21 October 2011 shortly after it was approved.