

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING 17 OCTOBER 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE11/0027) Program: Internal Product

Senator Cash (L&CA 70) asked:

In relation to the number of anticipated arrivals in 2011-12, if that number is based on the 4,949 people who arrived last year, what would be the financial impact of that adjustment across the department's outcome areas?

Answer:

Estimates of the costs associated with the care and management of Irregular Maritime Arrivals are based on factors other than just arrival numbers and are reviewed regularly as part of the Budget cycle.

There are traditional timelines and processes for updating estimates every year, not just for this Department, but for all portfolios. The Department of Finance determines the timetable for these updates.

The financial impact of any adjustment in arrival numbers across the Department's outcome areas will next be considered as part of the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statement process. It is anticipated that the Departments Portfolio Additional Estimates will be tabled in February.