

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 17 OCTOBER 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE11/0316) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Hanson-Young asked:

New onshore processing announcement: What support will be given to the Red Cross or other Non Government Organisations in operating community release programs?

Answer:

Ongoing funding is being provided through existing contractual arrangements with the Australian Red Cross, who are contracted to provide services through CAS/ASAS arrangements to bridging visa holders. The department recognises that community and stakeholder support is critical to the success of the new arrangements and is consulting with these agencies on a regular basis. These consultations will be ongoing.

Funding for support arrangements will be reviewed as part of annual budget processes and will be considered as required.