

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 17 OCTOBER 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE11/0335) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash asked:

Has the Government mandated a population limit, or trigger, for Christmas Island detention centre which would precipitate mainland transfer of asylum seekers? If so, what is that trigger? When was it mandated and how? How was the figure arrived at?

Answer:

The Government has not mandated a population limit for the facilities at Christmas Island Immigration Detention Centre. The Department makes decisions to transfer clients based on operational requirements and whole of network capacity.