

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 OCTOBER 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE12/0016) Program: Migration Review Tribunal and Refugee Review Tribunal

Question:

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

Given that failed asylum seekers will now have access to the RRT and the courts, what provision has been made in the budget to provide legal services to failed asylum seekers through IAAAS or any other funding arrangement to pursue appeals in the RRT?

Answer:

The Immigration Advice and Application Assistance Scheme (IAAAS) provides application assistance, rather than legal services, to eligible failed asylum seekers seeking review by the RRT. The Department of Immigration and Citizenship's (DIAC) funding for this falls within Outcome 4.3, as part of a broader package of IAAAS support for Irregular Maritime Arrivals seeking protection. DIAC does not provide or otherwise fund legal services for IMAs who seek consideration by the Courts after review by the RRT.