

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE12/0188) PROGRAM – Internal Product

Senator Hanson-Young (written) asked:

Internal audit of IMR findings: Can the Department please confirm whether there is a process that goes by the acronym PRE that was used to conduct an internal audit of some IMR cases?

Answer:

The Pre-Review Examination (PRE) was developed as a quality assurance tool to check the currency of the department's negative primary refugee assessments of irregular maritime arrivals (IMAs) who are awaiting an independent merits review.

The purpose of the PRE process, which commenced on 24 August 2011, was to assess whether protection obligations were owed by Australia in light of updated and relevant information relating to the client's individual circumstances.

Eligible clients were selected for checking of their case based on the time spent in detention. Those who had spent the longest time in detention had their case examined first. The last cases were allocated for PRE on 16 December 2011 due to the fact that the period between the primary and review assessments had reduced considerably.