

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(SE12/0344) PROGRAM – 3.1: Border Management**

Senator Cash (written) asked:

Destruction of documents: How many onshore visa applications have been lodged by people (not IMA's) who arrived without visas or documentation in 2011-12?

*Answer:*

The Department does not record the number of persons who lodged a visa application onshore, and claim to have arrived in Australia without documentation or a visa. The majority of persons (other than Irregular Maritime Arrivals) who claim to have arrived in Australia without a visa or documentation are eventually identified as having arrived on a valid visa and with a travel document.