

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### **(SE12/0345) PROGRAM – 3.1: Border Management**

Senator Cash (written) asked:

How many air arrivals presented as undocumented at the time of lodgement either (a) at airports or (b) after immigration clearance in 2011-12 and the year to date?

*Answer:*

- a) In 2011- 2012, 16 people who arrived inappropriately documented\* were screened in following a claim to engage Australia's protection obligations. In 2012-13 to 15 October 2012, 6 people who arrived inappropriately documented\* were screened in following a claim to engage Australia's protection obligations. All of these instances occurred at airports and were not Irregular Maritime Arrivals.
- b) Information about documentation presented after immigration clearance is included in individual client notes. Departmental data bases do not comprehensively capture those clients who have cleared immigration and entered Australia using improper means and who are subsequently identified in the community after they have been immigration cleared. It would be a major undertaking and require excessive resources to check individual records to identify all these cases.

\* *Inappropriately Documented Arrivals* refers to persons who were refused immigration clearance and arrived either without a travel document, with a travel document not in force, with a bogus travel document or with a travel document issued to someone else.