

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

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

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(SE12/0521) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Cash (written) asked:

How many children have arrived as IMAs since 2008 to the current date? How many have been unaccompanied minors? How many of those were subject to an age determination process? How many were found to be older than 18 years of age as a result of that process or other information?

*Answer:*

As the department's formal age determination process commenced in August 2011, data is only available from that date. Between 5 August 2011 and 30 September 2012, a total of 889 asylum seeker clients claiming to be minors have been interviewed using the focused interview technique. Of these clients, 401 (45.1%) have been found to be, on balance, over 18.