

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: No Date Given

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE12/0626) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash (written) asked:

Given the large number of asylum seekers arriving and departing from Christmas Island, is the Department concerned that this churn factor is causing problems and tensions that may lead again to unrest?

Answer:

The department monitors the conditions and potential risks at detention facilities, including Christmas Island. The department and its detention service provider have a range of risk mitigation strategies to manage any situation that may arise. The reduction in the length of time people spend in held detention arrangements on Christmas Island has had a significant impact on minimising the risk of potential unrest.