

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 November 2013**

**IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO**

**(SE13/0111) PROGRAMME – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Hanson-Young (Written) asked:

What checks does the Government undertake in relation to assessing the safety and health of voluntary and involuntary returns?

*Answer:*

The department obtains a health discharge assessment (HDA), usually from the contracted service provider, International Health and Medical Services. The HDA determines that the person being removed is fit to travel. The HDA may recommend specialist escorts, medication and links to appropriate services on arrival where necessary.