

## **Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee**

The committee met on Tuesday, 28 May 2013 from 9.00 am to 11.03 pm.

The committee called:

- the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

Among other issues, the following matters were discussed:

- detention centre processes and practices, including a comparison with other countries in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- the general criteria for overseas development aid (ODA) spending and whether there has been any departmental spending classified as ODA
- the screening, interview and review processes in the assessment of asylum applications, and procedures followed prior to the removal of failed applicants
- the number of irregular maritime arrivals (IMAs) seeking asylum, their countries of origin and the types of packages available to voluntary returnees
- the department's arrangements with states and territories to provide a range of support services to asylum seekers on bridging visas
- discussions between the department and state and territory police in relation to the data-matching of IMAs on bridging visas
- the visa status and location of asylum seekers on bridging visas who have been convicted of a criminal offence.