

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 MAY 2012**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(BE12/0292) Program 3.1: Border Management**

Senator Cash (L&CA [78]) asked:

I refer to a report in the Australian Newspaper dated 25 February 2008, that the Department informed the Minister for Immigration on 25 February 2008 that: “while a range of risk mitigation strategies have prevented significant boat arrivals in recent years, current intelligence on issues including the closure of Nauru suggest the possibility of increased people smuggling efforts.” Can you confirm this report?

*Answer:*

The department is unaware of any such report published in the Australian Newspaper on 25 February 2008.