

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21-22 MAY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE12/0326) Program 2.1: Border Management

Senator Xenophon asked:

If a passenger is cleared outbound at the start of a 'tag' flight, presumably the DIAC systems would show them as having exited the country. Without specific details, are there systems other than the 'D' sticker that would prevent a cleared passenger from leaving the flight at a subsequent port in Australia?

Answer:

All international passengers and crew arriving and departing Australia are required to undergo immigration clearance processes. Outward movements of passengers departing Australia from international airports are recorded in the Department's systems.

Outward immigration clearance includes face to document checks, checks against alerts systems and the provision of information on the outgoing passenger card.

There may be exceptional circumstances, such as when a person is unwell, where a person who has been outward cleared may be required to remain in Australia. There are appropriate processes in place to manage and accurately record such instances.