

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21-22 MAY 2012**

#### **IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

#### **(BE12/0357) Program 4.1: Visa Compliance and Status Resolution**

Senator Cash asked:

I refer to the Commonwealth Ombudsman report entitled “Detention arrangements – the transfer of 22 detainees from Villawood Immigration Detention Centre to the Metropolitan Remand and Reception Centre Silverwater” dated April 2012 and I ask: What comments did you receive in response to the draft updated PAM?

*Answer:*

Prior to updating the PAM, initial stakeholder views were sought through a working group. These comments were incorporated into a reworked draft PAM, which was subsequently circulated for comment to a number of internal stakeholders.

Comments received were specific to the operational procedures underpinning a transfer. These comments are being incorporated into operational procedures followed by officers in the immigration detention network. In addition, the Department's legal area provided information regarding the Department's 'duty of care' obligations towards those detainees transferred to a correctional facility.

The remainder of the comments were around clarity and consistency in wording.