

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 21-22 MAY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE12/0365) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash (L&CA 23) asked:

On 16 December 2011 the Northern Territory News reported that a 28 year old Iranian asylum seeker was interviewed in relation to allegations that he was inappropriately touching young girls during a swimming pool excursion. Has that person been charged? Will the department be recommending to the Minister that this man be refused a visa under the provisions of s.501?

Answer:

The person involved in the incident referred to above was charged by the Northern Territory Police on 15 December 2011. He remained in police custody and was released on bail into immigration detention on 20 April 2012 pending the outcome of court proceedings. On Tuesday 5 June 2012 court proceedings concluded and all charges brought against the client were dismissed. The client's immigration processing will continue.