

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ORGANISATION

Question No. 53

Senator Cash asked the following question at the hearing on 18 October 2011:

How long is it currently taking for ASIO to make security assessments of offshore entry persons?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

As at 30 September 2011, the average time for finalising an ASIO security assessment of an irregular maritime arrival (IMA) is 90 days. The majority of IMAs are security assessed by ASIO in under seven days.

Security assessment timeframes vary in accordance with numerous variables, including the nature of the security issues involved in individual cases and external factors beyond ASIO's control.