

Question on notice no. 146

Portfolio question number: AE22-146

2021-22 Additional estimates

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee, Home Affairs Portfolio

Senator Nick McKim: asked the Department of Home Affairs on 14 February 2022

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In the last ten years, how many people in detention with an adverse security assessment

issued by ASIO have:

- a. been released into the community on a residence determination?
- b. been granted a visa (broken down by visa subclass) ?
- c. been involuntarily removed from Australia?
- d. voluntarily departed Australia?
- e. had their adverse assessment downgraded to a qualified security assessment following review?

Answer —

Please see the attached answer.

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES
14 FEBRUARY 2022**

**Home Affairs Portfolio
Department of Home Affairs**

Program 2.4: IMA Offshore Management

AE22-146 - Visa Cancellations - In Detention - ASIO Adverse Security Assessment

Senator Nick McKim asked:

In the last ten years, how many people in detention with an adverse security assessment issued by ASIO have:

- a. been released into the community on a residence determination?
- b. been granted a visa (broken down by visa subclass)?
- c. been involuntarily removed from Australia?
- d. voluntarily departed Australia?
- e. had their adverse assessment downgraded to a qualified security assessment following review?

Answer:

In the last ten years up to 11 March 2022:

- a. Nil (0) people in detention with an adverse security assessment issued by ASIO have been released into the community on a residence determination.*
- b. One (1) person in detention with an adverse security assessment issued by ASIO has been granted a visa. The visa granted was a bridging visa (WE-050).
- c. One (1) person in detention with an adverse security assessment issued by ASIO has been involuntarily removed from Australia.
- d. Eighteen (18) people in detention with an adverse security assessment issued by ASIO have voluntarily departed Australia.
- e. As a matter of longstanding practice ASIO does not comment on individual cases nor provide specific details on adverse or qualified security assessments. However, of all the visa, citizenship and secure access security referrals that ASIO processes, only a very small percentage result in the furnishing of an adverse or qualified security assessment. ASIO employs rigorous analytical processes to ensure the accuracy of its security assessments. A change of security assessment from adverse to qualified does not represent a downgrading of an assessment, rather it is an acknowledgement that such matters are not static. Some of the reasons an assessment may change include the emergence of new information (including from the applicant) and changes in circumstances or the security environment. A new assessment may therefore differ from, and will supersede, any previous assessments made.

**A residence determination was issued with respect to one person while the person was residing lawfully in the community.*