

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 23 February 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE15/155) - Children - Programme 3.1 Compliance, Detention and Status Resolution (Administered)

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah (L&CA) written:

How many asylum seeker and refugee children are currently living in the Australian community? We now know that a third of those children suffer from mental health disorders, what support services will be made available to these children living in the community?

Answer:

As at 23 February 2015, there were 1,550 Illegal Maritime Arrivals IMA children in Community Detention, 2,481 living in the community on Bridging E visas and approximately 300 Unaccompanied Humanitarian Minors (UHMs) settled under the UHM Programme.

People residing in Community Detention are provided with health services coordinated by the contracted detention health service provider International Health and Medical Services (IHMS), through a network of community-based providers.

People on a bridging visa are eligible for Medicare assistance and are able to access medical services in line with community standards. Access to specialist torture and trauma counselling is also provided under the Status Resolution Support Services (SRSS) Programme.