

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014**

**IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO**

**(BE14/011) PROGRAMME – 3.3 and 3.4: Illegal Maritime Arrival (IMA)  
Onshore Management**

Senator Hanson-Young (L&CA 69) asked:

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Obviously, in coming up with those contracts and working out the staffing levels of the Border Force and the department, you are having to make some predictions into the future. What is the prediction for the number of people who would be held in immigration detention over the forward estimates?

Mr Bowles: I can take the specific details on notice, but, clearly, if there are no arrivals, the numbers in the detention network, as we get people out onto bridging visas and into the community through community detention or whatever form we do, should shrink. If I was to pluck a number out of the back of my head, onshore including Christmas Island is probably somewhere less than 4,000 at this stage. I can confirm all those numbers for you.

*Answer:*

If there are no further illegal maritime arrivals to Australia, the department expects that the numbers held within the immigration detention network will continue to reduce over the forward estimates.