

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 26 May 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE15/050) - Mr. Burnside letter campaign - Programme 1.5: IMA Offshore Management

Senator Macdonald, Ian (L&CA 10) asked:

CHAIR: I am asking the question of the official. If I wrote a bulk letter, as sometimes we politicians do, to 'The Householder', or if I wrote a bulk letter to 'The Detainee', how would that be dealt with?

Ms Scholten: I need to take that on notice, to check that process. Obviously the only process I am aware of is when the letter is addressed to the person we can identify at the centres, but I need to take that on notice.

CHAIR: And the packages had on them, 'This is from Mr Julian Burnside, attorney at law,' with the Melbourne address?

Ms Scholten: I believe there was a return address on there but I would need to check that, to take it on notice and come back.

Answer:

Letters are only delivered when they are addressed to specific individuals. Bulk mail outs are returned to the sender where possible.

Some letters received contained a return address of 205 William Street Melbourne Victoria 3000.