

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 22 May 2017**

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

**(BE17/238) - Legacy caseload statistics - Programme 2.4: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance**

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA) written:

Please provide the number of people in the ‘legacy caseload’

Provide all the dates when the Minister lifted the bar for legacy caseload asylum seekers to make an application for protection and the number of people for whom the bar was lifted on that day.

*Answer:*

As at 24 May 2017, there were 30,992 people identified as being within the IMA legacy caseload.

By 30 September 2016, the Minister had provided written notice to the vast majority of these IMAs indicating he had exercised his powers under 46A(2) of the act to enable them to make a valid application for a temporary protection or safe haven enterprise visa.

As the exercise of the 46A(2) power requires a written notice to be given to the IMA, the small number IMAs who absconded from immigration detention between 2008 and 2014 and are yet to be located have not had the bar lifted. Other instances where the bar had not been lifted by 30 September 2016 included babies born to IMA parents where the birth had not yet to be notified to the Department and IMAs who had changed their address and were yet to notify the Department of their current address. The Department is continuing to refer these exceptional cases to the Minister for him to consider exercising his powers as circumstances change.

The dates in 2015 and 2016 when IMAs were given written notice of the exercise of 46A(2) powers are included in the table below.

<b>Month</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
January	1	19
February	1	1,120
March		29
April	1	7,834
May	960	2,824
June	152	4
July	80	12
August	1,344	8
September	1,762	1,283
October	868	3
November	2,028	32
December	5,144	111
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,341</b>	<b>13,279</b>