QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 OCTOBER 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE14/386) PROGRAMME – 3.5 and 3.6: Illegal Maritime Arrival (IMA) Offshore Management

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

- What is the Department protocol in regards to treating and transferring asylum seekers to the mainland for treatment?
- What is the timeframe for transferring asylum seekers to the mainland for treatment?
- How ill does an asylum seeker need to be before they are transferred?
- How long was Mr. Kehazaei on Manus Is. before he was transferred to Brisbane?
- In the case of Mr. Kehazaei, would the Department say that they waited too long before transferring him to the mainland for treatment?
- If not, why not?

Answer:

Decisions on medical transfers are based on clinical advice from IHMS. Individual transfers and evacuations are managed on a case-by-case basis.

The department is awaiting the outcomes of the Queensland Coroner's report before making any further comment on the medical treatment provided in this case.