

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 21 FEBRUARY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(225) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash asked:

Why was the decision made to extend the time in which detainees would be held at Scherger?

Answer:

The Department had an ongoing need to extend the operation of Scherger for the accommodation of single adult male Irregular Maritime Arrivals.

The local community also requested the Department make a longer term commitment if it planned to extend its stay at Scherger.