

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 FEBRUARY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE12/0453) Program 5.1: Settlement Services for Migrants and Refugees

Senator Cash asked:

At page 25, The Richmond Report identified that “Premature client exit from a range of HSS program activities particularly in relation to specific cohorts is a problem”. Is data collected on those clients who exit HSS housing and become homeless? If yes, what data is collected? Please provide this data for the last 3 financial years and to date.

Answer:

Former Humanitarian Settlement Services (HSS) clients are permanent residents. The department does not maintain an ongoing relationship with the client once they have finished receiving services and have been exited from the HSS program.

Nevertheless, it is a key outcome of the HSS program that clients be established in long-term accommodation before they can be exited from the program. This is known as the “no exits into homelessness strategy”.