

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0044) PROGRAM – 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Cash (L&CA 51) asked:

Who has the department spoken to in relation to the refugee sponsorship pilot?

Answer:

Extensive consultations have been undertaken by the Department on the refugee sponsorship pilot concept, formally known as the Community Proposal Pilot.

More than 60 responses were received to a discussion paper released on 20 June 2012, including from:

- peak humanitarian organisations
- other community and faith-based organisations
- organisations representing resettled humanitarian communities
- settlement services providers
- State, Territory and Local Governments
- Commonwealth Government agencies.

The Department also held two formal consultations on 14 August 2012 and 17 August 2012 with representatives from similar organisations.

The Department has also held more than 30 one-on-one meetings and teleconferences since August 2012 with potential proposing organisations.

A number of meetings have also taken place between the Department and Commonwealth Government agencies.