

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0048) PROGRAM – 3.1: Border Management

Senator Cash (L&CA 53) asked:

How many onshore visa applications have been lodged by people not IMAs who arrive without visas or documentation in 2011/12 and 2013 to date?

Answer:

In 2011- 2012, **16** people who arrived inappropriately documented* were screened in following a claim to engage Australia's protection obligations. In 2012-13 to end of February, **33** people who arrived inappropriately documented* were screened following a claim to engage Australia's protection obligations. All of these instances occurred at airports and were not IMAs.

Departmental data bases do not comprehensively capture those clients who have cleared immigration and entered Australia using improper means and who are subsequently identified in the community after they have been immigration cleared. It would be a major undertaking and require excessive resources to check individual records to identify all these cases.

**Inappropriately Documented Arrivals refers to persons who were refused immigration clearance and arrived either without a travel document, with a travel document not in force, with a bogus travel document or with a travel document issued to someone else.*