

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(AE13/0340) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

Given that failed asylum seekers will now have access to the RRT and the courts, what provision has been made in the budget to provide legal services to failed asylum seekers through IAAAS or any other funding arrangement to pursue appeals in the RRT? What is the expected cost of funding RRT appeals for IMAs in 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16?

*Answer:*

There is no specific budget allocated for IAAAS services to irregular maritime arrivals (IMAs) in the forward estimates. These costs are a component of the total funding provided for the care and management of IMAs. The department also provides and funds IAAAS services for IMAs seeking review under Independent Merits Review and Independent Protection Assessment.

The services provided under IAAAS are not legal services, but take the form of advice and assistance by registered migration agents.