

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 24 MAY 2011**

**IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

**(BE11/0300) Program 4.1: Visa Compliance and Status Resolution**

Senator Cash (L&CA 8) asked:

On what dates did the Department provide advice to the Minister on the provision relating to the general conduct under section 501 of the Act prior to the his statement on Friday 18 March in relation to persons involved in the Christmas Island riots? Was the advice both oral and written?

Answer:

The Department provides a range of advice to the Minister and his office in relation to the operation of s501. This advice is both oral and written and is generally provided to the Minister in the context of providing overall policy advice. The Department is not able to provide statistical reports or date information covering all occasions when advice has been provided to the Minister on this matter.