QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 23-24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0634) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash asked:

What were the nature of the concerns raised by Captain Bennett, the Our Airline pilot in relation to those asylum seekers whose health checks were incomplete?

Answer.

Captain Bennett raised concerns that 12 passengers were added to the manifest late and he and his crew had not been briefed in regard to any possible health issues with the 12 passengers for whom final chest X-Ray results had not yet been received.

The clients had been screened and chest X-Rays undertaken. The results of these X-Rays had not been notified to the Department.

No passenger presented with any symptoms of tuberculosis.