

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 May 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE13/0174) PROGRAM – 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash (L&CA 100-101) asked:

Senator CASH: Is the department aware of allegations that a Sri Lankan couple in detention at Villawood—and I understand that they may have been subject to an adverse ASIO assessment—were taken to a jewellery store in Wentworthville because they claimed that they had lost jewellery. The allegation is that they were given \$5,000 to reimburse them for their items. This possibly occurred as early as 2011.

Mr Cahill: I will have to take that one on notice. That is some time ago.

Senator CASH: We think that it may have occurred in 2011, but this appears to be the first time this information has come to light.

Mr Cahill: I will take it on notice.

Answer:

The Department can confirm that Serco reimbursed a Sri Lankan couple \$4700 for lost jewellery in 2011.