

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 May 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE13/0415) PROGRAM – 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

Of those who have been released into the community on bridging visas - how many have received a negative primary RSA? - how many have had their negative primary RSA confirmed by their IMR/RRT Review? - how many are single males? - how many have presented with some form of mental illness or symptoms of a mental illness?

Answer:

According to departmental systems, as at 31 May 2013, a total of 413 Irregular Maritime Arrivals who had been granted bridging visas and released into the community had received a negative primary Refugee Status Assessment (RSA). Of those, 72 had their negative primary Refugee Status Assessment confirmed at Independent Merits Review. Of the 413 clients who had received a negative primary Refugee Status Assessment, 377 were single males.

Department systems are unable to report on the number of these clients who have presented with some form of mental illness or symptoms of mental illness as they are lawful visa holders and, accordingly, would receive mental health services through public health arrangements.