

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### **(SE12/0526) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Cash (written) asked:

How many people have gone missing from community detention since it has operated? How many asylum seekers have absconded from community detention (residence determination) in the financial year 2011-2012, and 2012 to date? What is the current status of their residence determinations? How many are still unaccounted for? Of the ones that have been located, what is their current location and status? i.e. are they subject to removal? I refer the answer given to SE11/0321 where it states "Twelve asylum seekers have absconded from community detention (residence determination) since the program expansion was announced on 18 October 2010. The 12 clients had not been located to date" – what is the current status of these 12 clients? Have any been located? If so, where were they located and on what date?

*Answer:*

Data provided in response to SE11/0321 is incorporated into data provided below.

In 2010-11, two clients absconded from community detention. In each case, the Minister made a decision to revoke the residence determination:

- one client was located in March 2011 and voluntarily left Australia;
- one client was located in August 2012 and found to be a refugee, but asked to return home and is currently in detention.

In 2011-12, 11 clients absconded from community detention. In each case, the Minister made a decision to revoke the residence determination:

- three clients have not been located;
- one client was located and voluntarily left Australia;
- one client was located in March 2012 and is currently awaiting an independent merits review in criminal custody;
- one client was located in April 2012, was not screened into protection processing arrangements, returned to held detention and then absconded;
- one client was located in April 2012 and is currently awaiting an independent merits review in criminal custody;
- one client was located in April 2012 and is awaiting an independent merits review in detention;

- one client was located in April 2012, was not screened into protection processing arrangements and is currently in criminal custody;
- one client was located in May 2012 and is currently in detention awaiting a referral to the Minister for his further consideration;
- one client was located in June 2012 and is currently in detention on a removal pathway.

As at 15 October 2012, one client has absconded from community detention in 2012-13. In this case, the Minister decided to revoke the residence determination. The client has not been located.