

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE12/0579) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash (written) asked:

Cocos (Keeling) Islands: Have all IMAs who have arrived at Cocos/Keeling Islands this year been transferred to Christmas Island? Or have any of them been transferred to another IDC directly from Cocos/Keeling?

Answer:

All IMAs who have arrived on Cocos (Keeling) Islands this calendar year until 31 October 2012 have been transferred to Christmas Island, with the following exceptions:

- A charter flight was diverted to Darwin on 15 October 2012 due to inclement weather.
- A group of Sri Lankan nationals, who were not owed protection under Australia's international obligations, were returned directly to Sri Lanka on 27 October 2012.