QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 November 2013

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE13/0331) PROGRAMME – 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

If found to be genuine refugees, how are UAM's resettled? What measures are in place to ensure their ongoing safety and livelihood until they reach adulthood?

Answer:

For eligible unaccompanied minors settled in Australia, known as unaccompanied humanitarian minors (UHMs), the department provides for their welfare, supervision and settlement support under the UHM Programme. UHMs in the Programme are provided with services and support by a service provider contracted to the Department of Immigration and Border Protection or by an individual custodian under the auspices of a state or territory child welfare agency. Depending on the particular needs and circumstances of a UHM, services may include housing, assistance to attend school, and case management to support transition to adulthood. Eligible UHMs generally remain under the care of the Programme until they turn 18, leave Australia or gain citizenship.