Released by the Department of Home Affairs under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

Attachment A

According to departmental records, in the 2016-2017 financial year, the Commonwealth paid a total of \$683 833.33 in six matters brought by asylum seekers or refugees who alleged personal injury or false imprisonment. All of the matters related to events allegedly occurring in Australia. For the purpose of this request, the term "asylum seekers" has been taken to mean people who have lodged an application for a protection visa as defined in s 35A of the Migration Act 1958. The term 'refugees' has been taken to mean someone who has lodged an application for a protection visa (as outlined above) and has been found to have been owed protection. Due to the broad definition adopted in relation to the above terms, the terms 'former asylum seeker' and 'former refugee' also fall within the categories above and any payments made in relation to 'former asylum seekers' or 'former refugees' are included in the figure quoted above.

It is noted that in these matters the amount paid included the claimant's legal costs. However, please also note that the amount does not include the Commonwealth's legal costs and other costs of managing the claims.