

REPORT (ABRIDGED) BY THE COMMONWEALTH AND IMMIGRATION OMBUDSMAN FOR TABLING IN PARLIAMENT

Under s 486O of the Migration Act 1958

This is the second s 486O report on Mr X and his family who remained in immigration detention for more than 30 months (two and a half years).

The first report 1001896 was tabled in Parliament on 13 February 2015. This report updates the material in that report and should be read in conjunction with the previous report.

Name	Mr X (and family)
Citizenship	Country A
Year of birth	1984
Ombudsman ID	1003303
Date of DIBP's report	25 March 2015

Detention history

10 September 2012	Mr X, Ms Y and their two daughters were detained under s 189(3) of the <i>Migration Act 1958</i> after arriving in Australia aboard Suspected Illegal Entry Vessel 443 <i>Xylophia</i> .
20 May 2015	Granted Bridging visas and released from community detention.

Visa applications/case progression

The Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) advised that prior to being released from detention, Mr X and his family were part of a cohort who had not had their protection claims assessed as they arrived in Australia after 13 August 2012 and the Minister had not lifted the bar under s 46A.

Health and welfare

The family was provided with treatment and counselling for a range of physical and mental health issues including anxiety and panic attacks.

Ombudsman assessment/recommendation

Mr X and his family were granted Bridging visas on 20 May 2015 and released from immigration detention.

The Ombudsman notes that Mr X and his family were held in detention for over two and a half years before being granted Bridging visas. The Ombudsman further notes that, at the time of DIBP's review, processing of their claims for protection had not commenced.

The Ombudsman recommends that the Minister lift the bar under s 46A and processing of the family's protection claims commence as soon as possible.