

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/261) PROGRAMME – 3.3 and 3.4: Illegal Maritime Arrival (IMA) Onshore Management

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

Provide a breakdown of the following:

- a. Capacity and surge capacity of each of the onshore detention centres (including ones earmarked for proposed closure)
- b. Current capacity
- c. Confirmed closures
- d. Any future proposed closures
- e. Reasons for detention (e.g. for what reasons are people in offshore detention, breaches of which visa subclasses, etc)

Answer:

a. The capacity of all immigration detention facilities can be found on the department's website at the following location:

<http://www.immi.gov.au/About/Pages/detention/immigration-detention-facilities.aspx>.

b. See: <http://www.immi.gov.au/About/Pages/detention/immigration-detention-facilities.aspx>.

c. In May 2014 the Minister confirmed the closure of six immigration detention facilities. Northern Immigration Detention Centre (IDC) and Darwin Airport Lodge Alternative Place of Detention (APOD) in the Northern Territory will be closed by 30 June 2014. Aqua and Lilac APODs on Christmas Island, and Inverbrackie APOD in the Adelaide Hills will be closed by 31 December 2014 and Curtin IDC in Western Australia will be closed by 30 June 2015.

d. See response to part c.

The department regularly reviews the immigration detention network to ensure its size and profile continues to meet Government requirements for the management of the immigration detention population and future adjustments need be made as needed.

e. Offshore transferees: All Illegal Maritime Arrivals (IMAs) are detained under section 189 of the *Migration Act 1958* (the Act). Under section 198AD of the Act, an officer must, as soon as reasonably practicable, take an IMA from Australia to a regional processing country.

Onshore detainees:

A person may be found to be an unlawful non-citizen if they are, amongst other things, an IMA, have overstayed their visa, have had their visa cancelled, are an illegal foreign fisher, or have been refused or bypassed immigration clearance at an air or sea port.