

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

**(BE14/604) PROGRAMME – 3.5 and 3.6: Illegal Maritime Arrival (IMA)
Offshore Management**

Senator Xenophon (Written) asked:

1. How much has been spent on mental health support, including psychiatric care, for asylum seekers detained on Nauru and Manus Island, PNG, in the current financial year?
2. What facilities are available to psychiatric patients at the Manus Island OPC?
3. Is a security guard rather than a mental health professional responsible for overseeing psychiatric patients?
4. Are Syrian asylum seekers at the Manus Island OPC being pressured to return home despite the severity of the conflict in their country of origin?

Answer:

1. \$6.9 million to 31 May 2014.
2. Psychiatric services are provided onsite at the offshore processing centre by visiting psychiatrists. Additional mental health support is provided by medical officers, psychologists, mental health nurses, counsellors and specialist torture and trauma counsellors. International Health and Medical Services also provides preventative health education for transferees, including sessions on self-esteem and stress management.
3. No.
4. No.