

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 OCTOBER 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE14/350) PROGRAMME – 3.3 and 3.4: Illegal Maritime Arrival (IMA) Onshore Management

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

How much will it cost to extend the leases at Blaydin and Wickham Point facilities?

- Why are these facilities being upgraded?
- How much are the upgrades costing?
- Are detainees from other facilities which are earmarked for closure going to be transferred to these facilities?
- When are such transfers expected to occur?
- What are the capacities for each facility?

Answer:

The Department of Immigration and Border Protection has reached agreement with the developer to extend lease arrangements at Wickham Point through to the end of the 2014/15 financial year. The department is currently negotiating the terms of a possible lease extension for the Bladin facility.

The facilities are not currently being upgraded.

Transfers within the immigration detention network occur on a regular basis. If there is an operational requirement to transfer detainees to the Bladin or Wickham Point facilities then this will be done as part of regular transfer operations.

The operational capacity of Wickham Point is 1500 and Bladin is 1000.