

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 19 October 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE15/026) - Transport cost to and from mainland between Nauru and Manus - Internal Product (DIBP)

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah (L&CA 77) asked:

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: What about cost for transportation to and from the mainland, between both Nauru and Manus?

Mr Pezzullo: If I might just provide some guidance here for Dr Charker. My preference here is that, once you start getting below one line budget items, how much we spend on Manus and how much we spend on Nauru is to be increasingly—

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: This would be my last question in this section if I can get the transport costs.

Mr Pezzullo: My preference would be to be more cautious. In some cases, I would like to review the material myself. So my preference, Dr Charker, is that we take the breakdowns on notice.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Can I just clarify: is that because the transport cost is part of another line item altogether?

Mr Pezzullo: Quite possibly—and, out of the corner of my eye, I am detecting Dr Charker very helpfully trying to flick through tables.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Okay.

Mr Pezzullo: I just want it to be right—and Dr Charker herself has very high standards when it comes to accuracy—so I would rather take it on notice.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Dr Charker, is it that transport costs are part of another line item, budgeted separately by the department?

Dr Charker: Yes, that is exactly right. As you would appreciate, we collapse all sorts of relevant expenditure to form a useful line item. So, when you ask after a particular specific, I have to try and break it out, and I do not think I have that here.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: That is fine. If you can take that on notice.

Answer:

The cost by financial year for transportation to and from the mainland between Nauru and Manus was:

Site	2014-15 \$,000	2015-16 Jul to Sep \$,000
Nauru	17,964	1,759
Manus	2,301	443
Total	20,265	2,202

Note: Costs relate to charters only and are inclusive of a proportion of aircraft standing charges.