

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance and Deregulation

Outcome/Program: 1/1.1

Topic: Humanitarian Program

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: F43

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 30 November 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) What is the cost per head of the arrivals under the humanitarian program?
- b) Please outline the model used by the Department of Finance to forecast the annual cost to the government of managing the humanitarian arrivals program.

Answer:

- a) As reported in the 2012-13 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO) (page 243) the Government will provide \$92.4 million in 2012-13 to meet the direct costs of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship in increasing the Humanitarian Program by 6,250 places. This equates to a unit cost of approximately \$15,000 per head. The consequential impacts on other Government program costs have been incorporated in the MYEFO as estimates variations by the relevant agencies. The whole-of-government cost in 2012-13 is estimated to be approximately \$150 million which equates to a unit cost of approximately \$24,000 per head.
- b) There are several models used to estimate the direct costs and the consequential impacts on whole-of-government costs and these are designed and managed by the respective line agencies. The cost estimates derived from these models are agreed between these agencies and the Department of Finance and Deregulation at each estimates update.