

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 9 FEBRUARY 2010**

#### **IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

#### **(90) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Humphries asked:

- (1) How many staff work in the Christmas Island IDC's kitchen?
- (2) What is the total yearly cost of employing the staff?
- (3) What is the daily and annual budget of the kitchen? (including wages, food, electricity, maintenance and cleaning)

*Answer:*

- (1) As at 9 February 2010 a total of 26 staff worked at the Christmas Island IDC kitchen. They are employed by the detention service provider.
- (2) The detention service provider has informed the Department that the annual average cost per staff member, including salary, allowances and travel costs, is around \$110,000 per annum. The current detention service provider began providing detention services on Christmas Island on 30 September 2009. Because of this, a total annual figure is not available.
- (3) The cost of cleaning the IDC kitchen is approximately \$30,000 per annum. The cost of food for the year ending 31 January 2010 was \$4,433,340.

In relation to other costs sought, there is no separate metering of water or electricity consumption for kitchen facilities. Similarly, there is no separate charge for the kitchen costs, as maintenance contractors charge a total fee to maintain the entire Christmas Island IDC.

Staff numbers reflect the client population at any time. The annual amount spent on the kitchen is also client driven. Both costs are therefore not budgeted on an annual basis.