

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 21 FEBRUARY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(311) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash asked:

1. What is the current state of the infrastructure on Christmas Island?
2. What is the state of the sewerage and septic system?
3. Is it true that it has been unable to keep up with the stress put on it by the additional number of people?
4. Have any measures been taken to upgrade the system?
5. At what cost?
6. To what capacity?

Answer:

1. The current infrastructure varies across the range of immigration detention facilities, however trunk services to the department's facilities are adequate for their intended purposes.
2. The sewerage system is in good condition. No septic system is used by the Department.
3. The system is operating at near maximum capacity.
4. Yes
5. & 6. The upgrade is being funded and managed by the Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government.