

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 FEBRUARY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE12/0343) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash asked:

What will happen to the 95 or so members of the IMR? Will they be given positions in the RRT? Has there been an assessment on how this will impact the workload and budget of the RRT?

Answer:

Following appointment by the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship for a term ending 30 December 2012, all independent merits reviewers (IMRs), who work in the Independent Protection Assessment Office, were contracted on a fee per diem basis, subject to work availability.

There is a current recruitment round for Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT) members. It is open to independent merits reviewers to seek appointment as RRT members.

The RRT's budget for irregular maritime arrival work is being considered as part of the 2012-13 federal Budget.