QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0403) PROGRAM - Internal Product

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

What was the budgeted cost to maintain and operate the (Pontville) centre in 2012-13? What revised costs were sought to maintain and operate the Pontville centre in MYEFO and the Appropriations Bill?

Answer:

There is no specific budget allocated for the maintenance and operation of the Pontville Centre in the 2012–13 financial year.

These costs are a component of the total funding provided for the care and management of Irregular Maritime Arrivals (IMAs). The budget for IMAs is developed using a financial estimates model based on IMA arrivals and average occupancy rates across all forms of immigration detention throughout the year. Estimates are regularly reviewed as part of the Budget process and are dependent on client arrival rates, the client cohort and average occupancy numbers in all placement options.