

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES - 25 FEBRUARY 2014**

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

**(AE14/057) PROGRAMME – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Madigan (L&CA 87-88) asked:

Senator MADIGAN: My questions relate to the total cost of accommodation for asylum seekers. Could you tell us what is the average cost per asylum seeker per day in offshore detention on either Manus Island or Nauru? [...]

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Well give us the average case cost for Manus Island, which is the same group of people.

Mr Bowles: I would have to take on notice an average for the total group of people.

*Answer:*

For Offshore Processing Centres on Nauru and Manus, the Department of Immigration and Border Protection does not undertake specific cost analysis for transferees, given that this form of measure is not utilised in forward planning and the development of budget estimates.

Instead, the budget for Illegal Maritime Arrivals (IMAs) is developed using a demand driven financial model based on IMA arrivals, average occupancy rates across all forms of immigration detention throughout the year, processing capacity, and the number of IMAs returned, removed or resettled. Estimates and assumptions are reviewed as part of the regular Budget process.