

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 24 MAY 2011**

**IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

**(BE11/0484) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network**

Senator Cash (L&CA 87-88):

With reference to question 316 from the February 2011 estimates in relation to the family who were transferred to Sydney, how many static guards are there outside?

*Answer:*

The family had three static guards while they have been housed in the Immigration Residential Housing in Sydney.

The provision of static guards was phased out progressively in 2011 with two static guards removed on 16 April 2011 and one removed on 16 June 2011.

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 21 FEBRUARY 2011**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(316) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network**

Senator Cash asked:

In relation to the security concern of the family who were transferred to Sydney. Are they still in Villawood Detention Centre? What was the cost of transporting the family to Villawood from Christmas Island and what is the cost of keeping them detained in the community housing facility at Villawood? How long have they been there? How long will they remain? What is the cost of providing guards to escort the eldest child to school?

*Answer:*

The family transferred from Christmas Island to Sydney on 13 August 2010 for the birth of their third child remain in Sydney at the Immigration Residential Housing (IRH) facility. The charter cost for the family, 20 other clients and staff was \$172,122.

The cost of static guards at the family's accommodation for the three months November 2010 to February 2011 was \$428,861.

At this stage there has been no action taken to return the family to Christmas Island.

This child is escorted to and from school along with other children from the facility. The costs associated with providing escorts for this child are equivalent to the other children.