

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0543) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash (L&CA 70) asked:

How much are detainees paying in equivalent credits for cigarettes? Does that figure include a retail GST component as opposed to a lower GST component, based on bulk purchasing arrangements, and excise duty? Are you able to advise on that?

Answer:

People in immigration detention are able to earn Individual Allowance Points for participation in activities. These points can be used to purchase a range of products including chocolate, chips and soft drinks, as well as cigarettes, if the person is 18 or older. The Points-equivalent cost of cigarettes for people in immigration detention is the same as the standard cost of cigarettes at that location, including all applicable taxes and duties.