

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 May 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE13/0353) PROGRAM – 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash (L&CA Written) asked:

What is the cost of extending the lease at Leonora? How long has this lease been extended until? What does the department anticipate the average occupancy at Leonora will be?

Answer:

As at 28 May 2013, the Department is in commercial negotiations with the service provider to extend the arrangements at Leonora for a further 12 months from 29 June 2013 to 29 June 2014.

Forward costs of operating Leonora 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.

As at 28 May 2013, the published operational capacity at Leonora APOD was 210. The Department is unable to provide estimated future occupancy numbers of Leonora.