

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 May 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE13/0444) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

What level of security is currently in place and what is planned? Has that been done in consultation with the government of Nauru? What access will asylum seekers have to the rest of the Island? What is their status on the Island at the moment? Do they have visas, for example? If so, what kind?

Answer:

Security is sub-contracted by the Department's service provider, Transfield Services (Australia) Pty Ltd, to Wilson Security (Australia) Pty Ltd, and operates in partnership with the Nauru Police. As such, centre security is managed in consultation with the Government of Nauru.

Transferees have access to a suite of supervised excursions to various activities around the island. These excursions form part of a planned program of recreational activities which are adjusted according to the needs of the transferees.

Agreement to access to the rest of the island forms part of discussions currently underway with the Government of Nauru regarding the 'open centre' concept.

Upon arrival in Nauru, all transferees are granted an "Australian Regional Processing Visa" by the Government of Nauru.