

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 30 October 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(227) Output 1.5: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Bartlett asked:

What is the current cost of maintaining the centre on Nauru?

Answer:

During the period January-September 2006 the cost of managing, maintaining and refurbishing the Nauru Offshore Processing Centre (OPC) was approximately \$16.3 million (an average of approximately \$1.8 million per month of which refurbishment has been around \$400,000 a month). This cost comprises payments to the International Organisation for Migration for managing, maintaining and refurbishing the OPC, to the AFP-UP for security services, for projects to assist Nauru maintain essential health and medical services, and for DIMA staff salaries and office expenses in Canberra and Nauru.