

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 17 OCTOBER 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE11/0363) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash asked:

Darwin International Detention Centres: In relation to Wickham Point – what is the annual lease cost of that facility? Has the Department made any payments and what have they been to date? What is the anticipated nominal capacity of that centre? Optimum Capacity and surge capacity? How long has the Department taken out a lease on the centre? At what cost? For how many detainees? Is there an option to extend the lease? Has the Department paid to keep that option? How much?

Answer:

The annual lease cost for a full operating year is \$28.4M. This covers the lease for the land and buildings.

As at the end of October 2011, no lease payments had been paid.

The nominal, optimal and surge capacity for Wickham Point is 1,500 clients.

The Department has a 3 year lease.

The lease cost over 3 years is \$82.4M. This is based on stages 2 and 3 coming on line in February and April 2012 respectively.

The nominal, optimal and surge capacity for Wickham Point is 1,500 clients.

There is an option to extend the lease. Before this can be exercised a new development application has to be lodged and approved by the NT Government.

The department has not paid for this option.