

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE12/0496) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash (written) asked:

What was the cost of transporting asylum seekers (including the use of charter aircraft and buses, cars etc.) to and from the centre, including as a result of transfer from another centre, transfers for health and other appointments and outings? Please provide a breakdown of costs including the number of people involved for 2011-12. What are the budgeted costs for 2012-13?

Answer:

Yongah Hill IDC was opened on 27 June 2012. Therefore, there was no cost of transporting clients recorded in the 2011-12 financial year.

The cost of domestic fares, detention escort and transport for the period July- September 2012 was \$1,000,536.

The very detailed information sought in relation to the breakdown of costs is not readily available in consolidated form and it would be a major task to collect and assemble it. The considerable resources required to collate the information cannot be justified.