

JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON AUSTRALIA'S IMMIGRATION DETENTION NETWORK

Q61

Question:

In relation to the costs of the community detention program for 2010-2011 can you provide a breakdown of the \$15.734 million? How much, for example is spent on whitegoods and furniture; case workers; leases etc? How much is paid in cash allowances? How many properties does the \$15.734 million relate to and where are they? What is the address of each of these properties? From whom are they leased? For what period are they leased? Have each of the properties been handed back in good order? Have there been any make good costs? What are those costs?

What happens to the white goods, furniture etc when families are provided with visas or removed from Australia?

What is the value of the contract to the Red Cross? For how long is the contract? What are the key performance indicators? Is the Red Cross subject to the Auditor General to ensure that there is proper accountability for the acquittal of these funds?

(Supplementary to Question 42)

Answer:

The cost of the community detention program for financial year 2010-11 was \$17.3 million. This comprised of:

- departmental expenses of \$1.542 million; and
- administered expenses of \$15.73 million.

Administered expenses

Expenditure in respect of services provided by the Australian Red Cross (ARC) totalled \$15.63 million.

The key expenditure items for the community detention program services delivered by the ARC in financial year 2010-11 included:

- \$2.2 million spent on Household Formation Packages (HFP), which includes whitegoods (please note that all items purchased as part of the HFP remain in the property when the client leaves community detention, with the exception of linen, schooling requirements and up to \$300 worth of baby items)
- \$2.01 million in cash allowances to clients
- \$1.1 million on caseworker salaries
- \$2.3 million on leases for 477 properties.

Most of the above expenditure was incurred during the period January to June 2011 with the ramp up of the community detention program.

In addition to the \$15.63 million, a further \$0.09 million was paid in 2010-11 for providing emergency care and support to a community detention client family in the Northern Territory. The Australian Red Cross does not currently provide such services in the Northern Territory.

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Community detention properties

Due to privacy reasons, addresses for community-based accommodation are not made public. The following table outlines the number of addresses in each state in which clients are housed in community detention.

State	Number of Addresses
Australian Capital Territory	16
New South Wales	97
Queensland	115
South Australia	63
Tasmania	5
Victoria	118
Western Australia	62

Properties are generally leased for a period of six to twelve months through the ARC and subcontracted organisations including Catholic Care, Marist Youth and Life Without Barriers.

Properties are vacated by clients once they have been granted a visa and made available to clients approved for community detention.

In relation to the properties being handed back and make good costs, the ARC has advised that a small number of properties have been handed back as they were considered inappropriate for ongoing leasing. No make good costs have been paid in relation to any properties that have been handed back.

The contract with Australian Red Cross

The ARC has been contracted by the Department to provide community care and welfare services for clients in community detention since 1 November 2005. Since then, the program has increased significantly with over 2000 clients approved for community detention since the expansion of the program was announced by the Minister on 18 October 2010.

The contract with the ARC covers a number of programs, including community detention. The ARC is paid upon receipt of correctly rendered detailed monthly invoices for both operational and client costs. The current contract expires on 31 December 2011 and has been separately provided to the committee. Key performance indicators are listed from page 34 of Schedule 2 and range from initial referral to transitioning out of the program.

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Under the contract the Department has the right to request copies of reports or information relating to contractual services. Additionally, the contract with the ARC for provision of various community and community detention related services contains an access provision at clause 9, which allows access by the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) to the offices of the ARC to inspect and copy all documentation and records that are relevant to the contract and to review performance under the contract. The Auditor-General would determine whether it was to utilise this access right and the extent to which it chose to conduct any review into performance, service delivery or fees paid for those services.

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Attachment A

State	Suburb
Australian Capital Territory	Campbell, Curtin, Florey, Garran, Gilmore, Isabella Plains, Kambah, Kingston, Lyneham, Macgregor, Melba, Narrabundah, Page
New South Wales	Ashfield, Auburn, Bankstown, Berala, Blacktown, Cabramatta, Canley Heights, Campsie, Condell Park, Dural, Doonside, Fairfield, Granville, Green Valley, Leumah, Lakemba, Merrylands, Mount Druitt, North Curl Curl, Punchbowl, Regents Park, Rutherford, Smithfield, Silver Water, South Granville, Warwick Farm, Wiley Park
Queensland	Acacia Ridge, Annerley, Arundel, Ascot, Ashmore, Boondall, Buranda, Camp Hill, Carina Heights, Chelmer, Chermside, Clayfield, Coorparoo, Davoren Park, Dutton Park, East Brisbane, Everton Park, Fulham Gardens, Gatton, Geebung, Graceville, Greenslopes, Hendra, Highgate Hill, Holland Park, Inala, Indooroopilly, Ingle Farm, Moorooka, Morningside, Northgate, Nundah, Oxley, Parkmore, Parkwood, Prospect, Rocklea, Salisbury, Southport, Stafford, Stafford Heights, Sunnybank Hills, Taringa, Upper Mount Gravatt, Virginia, Wavell Heights, Westcourt, Woolloongaba, Woollowin, Yeronga, Yerongpilly, Zillmere
South Australia	Aldinga Beach, Andrews Farm, Birkenhead, Blair Athol, Bowden, Broadview, Clearview, Croydon Park, Fairview Park, Fulham, Glenalta, Glenelg, Goodwood, Hendon, Keswick, Kurralta Park, Largs Bay, Largs North, Marion, Morphett Vale, Noarlunga Downs, North Haven, Old Noarlunga, Paralowie, Port Willunga, Salisbury, Semaphore, Smithfield, St Peters, Toorak Gardens, Woodville Gardens, Woodville Park
Tasmania	Blackmans Bay , Glenorchy
Victoria	Albion, Altona Meadows, Avondale Heights, Ballarat, Balwyn, Braybrook, Broadmeadows, Camberwell, Carnegie, Dallas, Dandenong, Deer Park, Doveton, Endeavour Hills, Epping, Essendon, Footscray, Frankston, Geelong, Glenroy, Hallam, Hamlyn Heights, Jeeralang Junction, Hoppers Crossing, Keilor East, Kensington, Lalor, Laverton, Maribyrnong, Mildura, Mill Park, Mirboo North, Mitcham, Mulgrave, Preston, Noble Park, Reservoir, Roxburgh Park, St Albans, Sunshine, Thomastown, Thornbury, Werribee
Western Australia	Balcatta, Balga, Bentley, Bicton, Cannington, Carlisle, Clarkson, Dianella, Doubleview, East Cannington, Edgewater, Girrawheen, Hamilton Hill, Highgate, Joondanna, Kinross, Landsdale, Maylands, Morley, Nollamara, Osborne Park, Queens Park, Scarborough, Stirling, Tuart Hill, Victoria Park, Westminster, Yokine