

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 OCTOBER 2014**

#### **IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO**

#### **(SE14/337) PROGRAMME – 3.3 and 3.4: Illegal Maritime Arrival (IMA) Onshore Management**

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

- What is the breakdown of costs associated with current and future voluntary and involuntary returns?

*Answer:*

The cost of removing an Illegal Maritime Arrivals (IMA's) depends on a wide range of factors including whether or not the removal is voluntary or involuntary, the destination and commercial airfare costs, whether security or other escorts are required to manage risk (including the airfares, accommodation and allowances of the escorts) and the types of immediate post-return assistance that may be appropriate. For the financial year 2013-14, the average cost to remove a voluntary IMA was approximately \$4,000 and an involuntary IMA was approximately \$12,000.

Funding for future removal activities are based on a demand driven model linked to a number of assumptions including the number of returns and removals undertaken (and their associated costs) in a particular financial year.