

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 19 October 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE15/129) - Cost of Charter flight - Programme 1.5: IMA Offshore Management

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah (L&CA 41) asked:

Mr Skill: There is a budgeted amount for these activities, but it is not something that I have visibility of. It is in the detention operation space.

Mr Outram: There are standing charter arrangements in place. There are three contracted charter aircraft. There are fixed costs associated with those contracts and there are variable costs according to those. For example, in the financial year 2014-15 our Adagold Boeing 737 was a tad under \$16 million. Skytraders is about \$15 million for an Airbus and about \$9.8 million for another Airbus. In terms of how often we have used them, in the 2014-15 financial year, 68 times for onshore operations and 11 times for operations to a regional processing centre. Thus far this year, 10 times for onshore operations and eight for operations to regional processing centres. That was as at 30 September.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Can I assume that eight is now nine, or there may have been others in the last month?

Mr Outram: There may have been others. I would have to check that.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: How much did last Friday's private jet cost?

Mr Outram: I would have to take that on notice. I do not have a specific breakdown of that particular flight.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: There are reported costs of around \$100,000. Is that in the ballpark?

Mr Outram: I would have to check that, because that obviously goes to the variable costs that are associated with things like flying hours, ground handling charges, catering and passenger tax charges. There would be a number of numbers that would go into that.

Answer

From 1 July 2015 to 19 October 2015, the Department has utilised charters on 13 occasions for onshore operations and 11 occasions for offshore operations.

The cost of the 16 October 2015 charter flight was \$115,821.66