

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 17-20 October 2011**

**Question: 121**

**Topic: Socio-Economic Assessment of the Christmas Island IDC**

**Asked By: Senator JOYCE**

**Type of Question: Written**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 December 2011**

**Number of pages: 1**

In reference to QoN88 from Budget Estimates.

- a) Can the Department provide details as to the research on the socio-economic assessment of the impact of the Christmas Island Immigration Detention Centre on the local community conducted by AECOM Australia Pty Ltd?
- b) What did the research find?
- c) Can we have a copy of the findings?
- d) What are the findings being used for?

**Answer:**

- a) Field research consisted of interviews, one-on-one meetings, open workshops and surveys with community members, local government, service providers and government agencies. Participants were asked to identify both positive and negative impacts of the Immigration Detention Centre on their community and individual lifestyles.
- b) AECOM Australia Pty Ltd is yet to finalise the report.
- c) When AECOM Australia Pty Ltd has finalised the report, it will be released in accordance with the Department's publication policies.
- d) The findings will help inform future social and economic policies for Christmas Island.