

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 21 FEBRUARY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(299) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash asked:

How much has the Government budgeted for this new process? Who employs them? Who are they accountable to? What are the terms and lengths of their contracts? How much are they paid? Has the department provided serviced offices or other accommodation for them? If so, where? At what cost? Have any assessments been carried out? If so, how many? What are their decisions? How many have been appealed to the courts? Which courts?

Answer:

The Portfolio Budget is currently under Government consideration and it is not possible to furnish a response at this time.

Independent Protection Assessors (IPAs) will be employed on the same terms and conditions and by the same employer as well as the same periods of appointment and contract as independent merits reviewers and will have access to the same office facilities and case management support. See the answer to Question on Notice No. 297.

As at 25 March 2011, no IPA assessments have been conducted.