

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 FEBRUARY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE12/0353) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash asked:

What has been the cost of operating the detention facilities at Scherger in the year to date? Please provide a breakdown of those costs including capital and repair costs. How many asylum seekers are currently detained there? How many have been released on a bridging visa; into community detention or given a permanent visa?

Answer:

Financial figures are for the 1 July 2011 to 31 Jan 2012 period.

Scherger IDC	Actual (\$)
Aircraft Charter Freight and Travel	3,300,954
DIAC staff costs and allowances	810,018
Interpreting Services	2,951,798
IT and Communications	781,768
Miscellaneous	649,505
Motor Vehicle Expenses	75,852
Property	6,877,640
Staff salaries	617,039
Client Accommodation Leasing	3,752,793
Detention Services	24,771,922
health services	9,213,671
IAAAS	89,317
IOM / Australian Red Cross	7,131
Total Cost	53,899,408

Capital spend for the financial year to 31 January 2012 is \$118,231.

According to DIAC operational data as at cob 13 February 2012:

- There were 323 IMAs being accommodated at Scherger Immigration Detention Centre (IDC).
- Since the Prime Minister's announcement on 13 October 2011, there have been 46 IMAs released from Scherger IDC on a bridging visa.

According to DIAC operational data, from 10 February 2011 to cob 13 February 2012:

- There have been 23 IMAs placed into community detention from Scherger IDC.
- There have been 459 IMAs released on protection visas from Scherger IDC.