

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 FEBRUARY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE12/0355) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash asked:

When did the first detainees arrive at Pontville? How long does the department anticipate they will remain there? When did it reach and then go over its capacity? How long was it over capacity? 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:

The first Irregular Maritime Arrivals (IMAs) arrived at Pontville Immigration Detention Centre (IDC) on 1 September 2011.

There are no clients remaining at Pontville IDC.

According to DIAC operational data, Pontville IDC never exceeded its capacity of 400 places.

Of the clients who were held in Immigration Detention in Pontville between 1 September 2011 and 6 March 2012:

- 278 had been granted a protection visa.
- 187 had been granted a bridging visa.
- 71 were transferred to community detention (CD)
- 129 were transferred to other facilities