

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0294) PROGRAM – 4.1: Visa Compliance and Status Resolution

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

What was the budget for household formation packages in 2012-13? What has been the actual spend thus far in 2012-13? Have any items in those packages had to be replaced when asylum seekers leave that accommodation? Why – is that as a result of damage or theft? At what cost?

Answer:

The community detention program is demand driven, therefore the cost of household formation packages in 2012-13 will be determined by the number and composition of clients.

As at 31 January 2013, the department has spent \$2.29 million on household formation packages in 2012-13.

Clients can keep personal linen items, such as towels and sheets, which are provided as part of the household formation package. These items are replaced in readiness for the next client.

The department's financial system does not have the capacity to report on replacement of items from the household formation package. This expense is captured within the household formation package line item.