

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

**ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(AE13/0386) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

What has been the cost of operating the detention facilities at Northam, in 2011-12 and 2012-13 to date? Please provide a breakdown of those costs, including capital and repair costs. How many asylum seekers are currently detained there by length of time, age, gender and country of origin? How many have been released on a bridging visa, into community detention or given a permanent visa?

*Answer:*

The cost of operating the detention facilities at Northam in 2011-2012 was as follows:

<b>Item Description</b>	<b>Actual Costs (\$)</b>
Air charter and freight	160,815
Detention Services	3,732,773
DIAC staff costs and allowances	832,777
Client Support and Health Services	311,924
Interpreters	703
IT, Communications, motor vehicle and property expenses	276,069
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>5,315,061</b>

The cost of operating the detention facilities at Northam from July 2012 to February 2013 was as follows:

<b>Item Description</b>	<b>YONGAH HILLS IDC Actual Cost \$</b>
Australian Red Cross	13,332
Charter Freight and Travel	738,211
Contractors/Consultants	35,000
Detention Services	39,532,882
Emergency Services	40,389
Health Services	8,479,083
Interpreting Services	2,889,158
IT and Communications	116,757
Motor Vehicle Expenses	64,292
Property	235,511
DIAC Staff Costs	886,242
DIAC Staff Salaries	1,814,238
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>54,845,095</b>

*Please note that item grouping has been reverted to be align with requirements from the Department of Finance and Deregulation.*

There was \$168,110,611 in capital expenditure in the 2011- 2012 financial year (predominately relating to the initial completion of the facility) and \$1,729,357 between July 2012 and February 2013. Works undertaken included:

- Furniture Fittings and Equipment;
- Security comprising Fencing and CCTV;
- Purchase & installation of buildings;
- Installation of recreational facilities (sporting fields, undercover sporting areas, gyms etc); and
- Project management.

Ongoing maintenance and repair costs are included in the IT, Communications, motor vehicle and property expenses category in the table above.

There is no fixed budget for operating the centre at Northam in 2012-13. The budget for Irregular Maritime Arrivals (IMAs) is developed using a financial estimates model based on IMA arrivals and average occupancy rates across all forms of immigration detention throughout the year. Estimates are regularly reviewed as part of the Budget process and are dependent on client arrival rates, the client cohort and average occupancy numbers in all placement options.

As at cob 11 February 2013 the number of IMAs accommodated in Northam was 338.

Below is a breakdown by length of time in detention, age, gender, country of origin and numbers released into the community.

<b>Time in Detention</b>	<b>Yongah Hill Immigration Detention Centre</b>
<b>0 to 90 days</b>	14
<b>91 + days</b>	324

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Yongah Hill Immigration Detention Centre</b>
<b>0 to 17 Years</b>	0
<b>18 to 35 Years</b>	242
<b>36 + years</b>	96

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Yongah Hill Immigration Detention Centre</b>
<b>Male</b>	338
<b>Female</b>	0

<b>Nationality</b>	<b>Yongah Hill Immigration Detention Centre</b>
<b>Afghanistan</b>	88
<b>Bangladesh</b>	*
<b>Claimed Stateless</b>	*
<b>India</b>	*
<b>Iran</b>	17
<b>Iraq</b>	*
<b>Lebanon</b>	*
<b>Pakistan</b>	33
<b>Palestine</b>	*
<b>Sri Lanka</b>	171
<b>Sudan</b>	*
<b>Syria</b>	*

<b>Release Type**</b>	<b>Yongah Hill Immigration Detention Centre</b>
<b>Bridging Visa</b>	1493
<b>Protection Visa</b>	148
<b>Community Detention</b>	8

*Based on operational data as at COB 11 February 2013*

*\* Due to privacy reasons all nationalities with less than 10 people have been represented as an asterix.*

*\*\* Numbers are for 2012-2013 financial year*