

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0441) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

- a) How many times have Christmas Island IMA detainees had video links and phone conference calls provided for them for the purposes of speaking with their legal representatives in 11/12 and 12/13?
- b) What is the typical per service cost of providing video links and phone conference calls between Christmas Island IMA detainees and their legal representatives and the total cost of these services in 11/12 and 12/13?
- c) How many times have IMAs been transferred on charter or commercial flights to and from the mainland from Christmas Island for the purposes of interviews/meetings with their legal representatives in 11/12 and 12/13 and what has been the total cost of these flights?

Answer:

- a) The department is not aware of any instance of people in detention on Christmas Island using video links or teleconferencing for the purpose of speaking with legal representatives. Clients use the public telephones or land-line-equipped compound interview rooms.
- b) Not applicable.
- c) Irregular maritime arrivals are not transported to the mainland for the sole purpose of interviews or meetings with their legal representatives.