

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 22 May 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(178) Output 1.3: Enforcement of Immigration Law

Senator Ludwig (L&C 117) asked:

There was a dentist contracted to fly from Melbourne to Sydney on the weekend to attend Villawood detention centre. I am just curious about what that was needed for. That is my information. I was looking at the average time between a request for a consultation and the cost of the dental services provided, travel and accommodation facilities et cetera.

Answer:

There are no records of DIMA flying in dentists from Melbourne on weekends. Emergency dental services are provided by a Sydney based dentist on a case specific basis.

The cost of all dental services for those in immigration detention for a 12 month period is approximately \$152,000.