

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 May 2007**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(99) Output 1.6: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Crossin (L&CA 123) asked:

Can you provide me with an update on the answer to question on notice No. 244, which was asked by Senator Ludwig in May 2006, about the cost of the government's policy of processing asylum seekers on Nauru and Manus Island. We are after an update of the figures in that table in your answer to the question. As I understand it, you have said the cost of processing the asylum seekers on those islands from 2001 to 2006 was \$253.5 million.

*Answer:*

The costs of processing asylum seekers on Nauru and Manus Island from 2001 to 31 May 2007 have been \$288.5 million, including departmental costs in Australia.

The costs, in millions of dollars for each centre by years are contained in the following table:

CENTRE	YEAR					
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-31/05/07
NAURU	48.5	45.0	33.6	34.4	26.4	24.3
MANUS	29.4	20.6	6.2	1.8	2.4	1.1
NATIONAL OFFICE CO-ORDINATION	7.8	2.3	1.5	1.3	1.0	0.9