

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 28 - 29 MAY 2008

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(98) Output 1.5: Detention

Senator Ellison asked:

Regarding the Christmas Island detention facility, has the department or the Minister finalised operating instructions, for example, what number of unauthorised arrivals would need to arrive to make the centre viable to have operating?

Answer:

The operational parameters for the use of the Christmas Island detention facility are the subject of ongoing consideration and will be based on providing maximum flexibility at Christmas Island to deal with smaller numbers of arrivals on the island, as well as the composition of any arrivals.