

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 23 MAY 2011**

#### **IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

#### **(BE11/0177) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Cash (L&CA 57) asked:

In relation to the \$75.9 million over four years to provide support and maintenance for irregular maritime arrivals transferred to Malaysia, what is the estimated cost per person?

*Answer:*

Total funding over four years of \$75,929,310 was included in the 2011-12 Budget for the transfer of Irregular Maritime Arrivals (IMAs) to Malaysia.

The costs associated with the support and maintenance of IMAs transferred to Malaysia under the arrangement will be impacted by the scope of services to be delivered by any partner agencies, such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration. Costs will also be dependant on a range of other variables such as the mix of the caseload, health and education requirements and ongoing support needs.

Due to these and other factors, it was not possible to derive a detailed estimate of the cost per person for the transfer of IMAs to Malaysia.