

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 23 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0178) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash (L&CA 56) asked:

I would like to refer to page 263 in Budget Paper No. 2 in which it states:

The government will provide \$75.9 million over four years to provide support and maintenance for irregular maritime arrivals transferred to Malaysia under the bilateral arrangement with Malaysia.

Who is the \$75.9 million being paid to for the transfer of the 800 asylum seekers?

Answer:

DIAC will have expenses associated with departmental resourcing to support the arrangement. There will also be costs incurred by various partner agencies. It is anticipated that both the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) will play a vital role in the implementation of the arrangement, through their provision of support and maintenance of Irregular Maritime Arrivals in Malaysia.