

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 May 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE13/0358) PROGRAM – 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash (L&CA Written) asked:

What has been the cost of operating the detention facilities at Villawood, in 2012-13? Please provide a breakdown of those costs. How many asylum seekers are currently detained there, by length of time, age, gender and country of origin? How many have been released on a bridging visa- into community detention or given a permanent visa? What is the budgeted cost to maintain and operate the centre in 2012-13?

Answer:

The total operating cost of detention facilities at Villawood from 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013 was \$43.35 million. Detention services at Villawood are provided for Irregular Maritime Arrivals and people taken into immigration detention from the community.

The cost for the Villawood facilities includes the Villawood Immigration Detention Centre (VIDC) and Sydney Immigration Residential Housing (SIRH). This cost is for all clients in these facilities, not just asylum seekers.

The table below provides the breakdown of this figure:

Service	Amount
Detention Services (Serco)	\$40,672,074
Contractors/Consultants	\$229,114
Community Based Support Services	\$34,045
IT & Communications	\$172,737
Property (lease & maintenance)	\$406,220
Staff Costs (DIAC)	\$1,838,382
TOTAL	\$43,352,572

Profile of asylum seekers

The numbers below contain information for Irregular Maritime Arrivals only and do not include people taken into immigration detention from the community.

Villawood IDC

As at close of business on 28 May 2013:
The number of IMAs accommodated in VIDC was 91.

Below is a breakdown by length of time in detention, age, gender and country of origin:

Time in Detention	Number
0 to 90 days	4
91 + days	87
TOTAL	91

Age Group	Number
0 to 17 Years	0
18 to 35 Years	63
36 + years	28
TOTAL	91

Gender	Number
Male	88
Female	3
TOTAL	91

Nationality	Number
AFGHANISTAN	10
MYANMAR	*
EGYPT	*
INDONESIA	*
IRAN	15
IRAQ	*
KENYA	*
PAKISTAN	*
RUSSIA	*
SRI LANKA	33
CLAIMED STATELESS	*
VIETNAM	*
TOTAL	91

** Due to privacy reasons all nationalities with less than 10 people have been represented as an asterisk.*

- During the period 1 July 2012 to close of business 28 May 2013:
- 1,162 IMAs were placed into community detention from VIDC;
 - 6 IMAs were released on Protection Visas from VIDC; and
 - 135 IMAs were released from VIDC on Bridging Visas.

The costs to maintain and operate the centre in detention are a component of the total funding provided for the care and management of IMAs. The budget for IMAs is developed using a financial estimates model based on IMA arrivals and average occupancy rates across all forms of immigration detention throughout the year. Estimates are regularly reviewed as part of the Budget process and are dependent on client arrival rates, the client cohort and average occupancy numbers in all placement options.

Sydney IRH

As at close of business on 28 May 2013:
The number of IMAs accommodated in SIRH was 24.

Below is a breakdown by length of time in detention, age, gender and country of origin:

Time in Detention	Number
0 to 90 days	0
91 + days	24
TOTAL	24

Age Group	Number
0 to 17 Years	13
18 to 35 Years	5
36 + years	6
TOTAL	24

Gender	Number
Male	11
Female	13
TOTAL	24

Nationality	Number
ALBANIA	1
EGYPT	6
IRAN	2
IRAQ	5
SRI LANKA	7
VIETNAM	3
TOTAL	24

During the period 1 July 2012 to close of business 28 May 2013:

- 9 IMAs were placed into community detention from SIRH;
- 2 IMAs were released on Protection Visas from SIRH; and
- 5 IMAs were released from SIRH on Bridging Visas.

The costs to maintain and operate the centre in detention are a component of the total funding provided for the care and management of IMAs. The budget for IMAs is developed using a financial estimates model based on IMA arrivals and average occupancy rates across all forms of immigration detention throughout the year. Estimates are regularly reviewed as part of the Budget process and are dependent on client arrival rates, the client cohort and average occupancy numbers in all placement options.