QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 May 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE13/0359) PROGRAM – 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

What is the current operational and contingency capacity of at Villawood, by compound? Has capacity been exceeded in 2012-13? If so, when and for how long?

Answer:

As at 28 May 2013 the published operational and contingency capacity for Villawood IDC by compound is as follows:

Villawood Immigration Detention Centre	Operational capacity	Contingency capacity
VIDC - Fowler	80	181
VIDC - Blaxland	60	60
VIDC - Banksia	34	34
VIDC - Hughes	205	205
Total	379	480

Client numbers are continuously monitored and adjusted across the immigration detention network to ensure accommodation needs are met. If a centre exceeds published operational capacity it moves into contingency capacity. Specific details on the duration a centre may have exceeded operational capacity are not available as it would require an unreasonable diversion of resources to extract the information.