

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 May 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE13/0376) PROGRAM – 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

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

Answer:

As at 28 May 2013:

- The published operational capacity at Northam IDC (Yongah Hill) was 600.
- The published contingency capacity at Northam IDC (Yongah Hill) was 600.

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.