

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 May 2013**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(BE13/0394) PROGRAM – 4.2: Onshore Detention Network**

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

What is the cost per person per day for families and unaccompanied minors in community detention? What is the health cost and who meets those costs? What about pharmaceuticals? Who pays for them? What about transport costs and taxis, for example? Who pays for them? At what cost? What are these costs for the 2011-12 financial year and 2012-13 to date?

*Answer:*

The individual per person breakdown of costs for families and unaccompanied minors cannot be reasonably estimated due to dynamic factors such as the overall number of clients, the makeup of cohorts, the variability of costs by location and individual client needs.

The cost of health services for community detention clients, including dental, specialist and pharmaceuticals, was \$8.2 million for 2011-12 and \$10.8 million for 2012-13 to 30 April 2013. These costs are met by the Department.

Clients in Community Detention are provided with a fortnightly living allowance. This is used to pay for general household and living expenses including transport.