

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 31 May 2013**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(BE13/0446) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

What has the Australian government promised to provide Nauru and PNG in addition to the construction of the processing centres? Are there arrangements to increase our Ausaid commitments? Is there a commitment to build schools, hospitals, medical centres, desalination plants- electricity generators etc? If so at what cost and where would that appear in the budget?

*Answer:*

In addition to the construction of the processing centres, the Australia Government, as agreed in the Memoranda of Understanding with Papua New Guinea (PNG) and Nauru, will bear all direct costs related to the regional processing arrangements. This includes funding service providers to operate the centre, welfare services and claims assistance to the transferees and funding to support PNG and Nauru to undertake refugee status determinations.

Questions related to AusAID commitments should be referred to AusAID for response.