

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

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

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(BE13/0548) PROGRAM – 4.2: Onshore Detention Network**

Senator Hanson-Young (Written) asked:

Can the Minister provide more details on the release of families in to the communities on the bridging visa class E? What funding will they receive? Will the funding level be affected by how many children are in the family or is it a flat rate per family?

*Answer:*

Families released into the community on a Bridging E visa may be eligible to receive support and services either under the Asylum Seeker Assistance Scheme or the Community Assistance Support program. The income support provided to families will depend on the size and composition of the family unit. It is capped at 89 per cent of the Special Benefit rate and, where eligible for rent assistance, at 89 per cent of the equivalent Centrelink Rent Assistance rate.