

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE12/0504) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash (written) asked:

What has been the cost of operating the detention facilities at Broadmeadows, in 2011-12? Please provide a breakdown of those costs including capital costs. How many asylum seekers are currently detained there by length of time, age, gender and country of origin? How many have been released on a bridging visa; into community detention or given a permanent visa? What is the budgeted cost to maintain and operate the centre in 2012-13?

Answer:

The cost of operating Melbourne Immigration Transit Accommodation (MITA) in 2011-2012 is as follows:

Item Description	Actual Costs (\$)
Aircharter and freight	20 616
Detention Services	10 580 251
DIAC staff costs and allowances	616 882
Client Support and Health Services	2 927 343
Interpreters	1 250 270
IT, Communications, motor vehicle and property expenses	1 553 497
Total Cost	16 948 859

In addition for the financial year to 30 June 2012 there has been \$3 904 919 in capital expenditure. Works undertaken included:

- the purchase of furniture, furnishings, equipment and vehicles;
- building works;
- installation of new buildings.

As at cob 15 October 2012:

- The number of irregular maritime arrivals (IMAs) accommodated in MITA was 114.

Below is a breakdown by length of time in detention, age, gender and country of origin.

Time in detention	Number
0 to 90 days	19
91 + days	95
Total	114

Age group	Number
0 to 17 years	61
18 to 35 years	43
36 + years	10
Total	114

Gender	Number
Male	114
Female	-
Total	114

Nationality	Number
Afghanistan	22
Sri Lanka	55
Pakistan	8
Iran	11
Iraq	11
Claimed Stateless	5
Other	2
Total	114

According to DIAC operational data*;

From 11 January 2012 to cob 15 October 2012:

- 290 IMAs were placed into community detention from MITA;
- 27 IMAs were released on protection visas from MITA; and
- 67 IMAs were released on a bridging visa from MITA.

* Data relating to locations of clients prior to release is not readily accessible before 11 January 2012.

There is no specific budget allocated for the MITA in the 2012-13 financial year.