

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012**

#### **IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

#### **(SE12/0534) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Cash (written) asked:

Onshore arrangements - Community Detention: In expanding the Community Detention program, how many dwellings have been acquired and/or accessed in 2011-12 and how many are forecast for acquisition in 2012-13? Where are they? how much has been spent on: • Acquisition costs and rental costs of each dwelling or residence [broken down by postcode] • recruitment of additional staff including case managers, for example. • connection fees for utilities • Installing household goods including labour costs • purchasing household goods

*Answer:*

518 properties were leased by service providers to accommodate clients in the community detention program in 2011-2012.

These costs are a component of the total funding provided for the care and management of Irregular Maritime Arrivals (IMAs). The budget for IMAs is developed using a financial estimates model based on IMA arrivals and average occupancy rates across all forms of immigration detention throughout the year. Estimates are regularly reviewed as part of the Budget process and are dependent on client arrival rates, the client cohort and average occupancy numbers in all placement options.

Rental properties are leased in WA, SA, NSW, VIC, QLD, TAS and the ACT.

The cost of accommodation for the community detention program for 2011-2012 was \$9.54 million. This information is not available by postcode.

Service provider staffing levels vary according to the number and composition of clients accommodated in community detention.

The costs of utility connection are not captured separately to the overall cost of utilities.

The cost of the household formation package for 2011-2012 was \$6.98 million which included costs for installation of white goods.