

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

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

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

#### **(SE12/0537) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Cash (written) asked:

Onshore arrangements - Community Detention: 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 what are the budgeted costs for 2012-13?

*Answer:*

The cost per client per day in community detention cannot be reasonably estimated due to a range of dynamic factors including the number of clients, composition, length of time residing in community detention, variability of costs by location and individual client needs.

The health related costs (including pharmaceuticals) for the community detention program for 2011-2012 were \$8.2 million. This cost was covered by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

Clients in community detention pay for their own transportation costs (including taxis if clients choose to use them) from their fortnightly living allowance. It is not possible to itemise these costs.