

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 November 2013

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE13/0329) PROGRAMME – 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

What measures are in place to ensure unaccompanied minors are cared for appropriately?

Answer:

- The Department has contracted a number of organisations from the not-for-profit sector to provide services for unaccompanied minors (UAMs).
- Most UAMs placed in community detention live with a carer in a group house arrangement with other UAMs.
- Carers responsible for minors are required under the contract to be appropriately trained and qualified to care for children.
- Rent, food and other household items are funded by the Department.
- UAMs receive a small weekly personal allowance.
- In line with community standards, UAMs in community detention attend school, have access to health care and are supported to become involved in after-school activities, such as football, art or music classes and other recreational/creative activities.