



Australian Government
Department of Immigration and Border Protection

Decision Record

Request Details

FOI Request: FA 14/02/00293

File Number: ADF2014/4600

Scope of Request

I am requesting the details of any direct payments made on behalf of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship to the Government of the Republic of Nauru between January 1, 2012 and February 1, 2014. The information I require is the date of payment, amount of payment, reason for payment and to whom the payment was made.

I have been made aware by Immigration media that the information has already been found and passed to the minister's media aides, but have not been able to obtain it from them. The documents sought as part of this FOI request are only those provided by the department's media team.

Documents in scope

1. Electronic record – Talking Points: 118. Payments between the Australian and Nauru governments – dated 31 January 2014 – containing 1 folio.

Decision

I am an officer authorised under section 23(1) of the FOI Act to make decisions in relation to FOI requests. My decision is to release, in full, the document within the scope of your request. Please find attached the documents as identified above.

Information considered

In reaching my decision I have considered the following:

- the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*;
- the *FOI guidelines* issued by the Australian Information Commissioner;
- departmental document (identified above);
- consultation with relevant business area; and
- publically available information.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Janelle Raineri'.

Janelle Raineri

Position number: 60008295

Authorised FOI Decision Maker

Department of Immigration and Border Protection

4 March 2014

people our business

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118. Payments between the Australian and Nauru governments

Issue:

Personal Information subject to 11C(1)(a) asks about payments made between the Australian and Nauruan governments in relation to the operation of the detention centre.

Talking points:

- The transferee visa cost is \$3000 a quarter per transferee.
- Expenses in relation to water costs are not paid directly to the Nauruan Government, these are paid under contractual arrangements to suppliers.

Background (not to be released to the media):

The first memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the government of Australia and the Government of Nauru was signed by Ministers on 29 August 2012, with a subsequent MOU signed on 3 August 2013. In accordance with this MOU, the Government of Australia will fund agreed costs associated with the establishment and operations of the offshore processing centre on Nauru.

In September 2012, the Government of Nauru introduced the Australian Regional Processing Visa. Under Nauruan law, it is a requirement for all persons who have been transferred to the offshore processing centre in Nauru to hold an Australian regional processing visa.

Each visa is valid for a period of three months from time of grant – any transferees in Nauru after this period of time will require a further (three month) visa. The cost of each visa is AUD \$3000.

For the financial year to date (FY2013/14), the department has paid \$7 139 938 for costs associated with visas for transferees on Nauru.

Cleared by:

Ken Douglas, FAS, ODTRG

31 January 2014

Released by DIBP under the
Freedom of Information Act 1982