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Redevelopment of the Villawood Immigration Detention Facility

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

November 2009
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Membership of the Committee

Chair Senator the Hon Jan McLucas

Deputy Chair Senator the Hon Judith Troeth

Members Mr Nick Champion MP
 Senator Michael Forshaw
 Mr John Forrest MP
 Ms Jill Hall MP
 Hon Peter Lindsay MP
 Hon Roger Price MP
 Hon Peter Slipper MP

Committee Secretariat

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List of recommendations

2 Proposed Works

Recommendation 1

The Committee recommends that the facilities at Villawood Immigration Detention Centre currently known as 'Stage 1' be demolished as part of the current program of works.

Recommendation 2

The Committee recommends that the Department of Finance and Deregulation present the detailed design for the redevelopment of Stage 2 and Stage 3 of the Villawood Immigration Detention Facility to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for examination prior to construction commencing.

Recommendation 3

The Committee recommends that the Department of Finance and Deregulation ensure that the detailed design for the Villawood Immigration Detention Facility address the management plan for potential surge conditions.

Recommendation 4

The Committee recommends that the Department of Finance and Deregulation present the final costs of the Villawood Immigration Detention Facility redevelopment project to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for examination prior to construction commencing.

Recommendation 5

The Committee recommends that the Department of Immigration and Citizenship rename the sections within the new Villawood Immigration Detention Facility with names that are non-institutional in nature. In addition, all staff should be actively discouraged from the ongoing use of the terminology 'Stage 1, 2 and 3' in order to reinforce the name changes.

Recommendation 6

The Committee recommends that the Department of Immigration and Citizenship refer the *Standards for design and fitout of immigration detention facilities* to Standards Australia Limited for review and accreditation.

Recommendation 7

The Committee recommends that the Department of Immigration and Citizenship, as a matter of priority, provide each person detained at the Villawood Immigration Detention Centre with access to an adequate lockable space in which to secure their personal belongings.

In addition, the Committee recommends that the Department of Immigration and Citizenship ensure that the detailed design for the new Villawood Immigration Detention Facility incorporate the capacity for each detainee to secure either their room or to secure their personal belongings in an adequate lockable space.

Recommendation 8

The Committee recommends that the Department of Immigration and Citizenship cease the use of the loudspeaker system to page detainees at the Villawood Immigration Detention Centre as soon as possible and implement a method of contacting detainees that respects their right to privacy.

Recommendation 9

The Committee recommends that the Department of Finance and Deregulation and the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DOFD/DIAC) ensure that the local community is kept informed about security, noise, traffic and light management at the Villawood Immigration Detention Facility (VIDF) site throughout the redevelopment.

Further, the Committee recommends that DOFD/DIAC ensure that plans for the redevelopment of the VIDF are consistent with the stormwater, biodiversity and heritage management plans of the Bankstown City Council.

Recommendation 10

The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives resolve, pursuant to Section 18(7) of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, that it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work: redevelopment of the Villawood Immigration Detention Facility.