

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 23 February 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE15/003) - Children in Detention - Programme 2.1 Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance (Administered)

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA 8) asked:

Senator KIM CARR: Sure. We do not want to get caught up here in any misunderstanding. What data do you have on reports of sexual assaults on minors in detention centres, either onshore or offshore?

Ms Pope: My colleague is coming to the table.

Mr Pezzullo: Senator, while one of Ms Pope's colleagues joins us, we have extensive data on what are known as 'reportable incidents'. Not all of those incidents relate to sexualised violence, although some do. I am happy, through the Chair, to have the data reviewed and sliced and diced as you have requested. I give you an undertaking that we will come back to you through the course of day as early as possible so that you can continue your line of questioning rather than taking it formally on notice.

Answer:

The department has data on reported incidents that occur within immigration detention facilities and Regional Processing Centres, including incidents of sexual assaults of minors.

For the purpose of departmental reporting, the sexual assault incident category includes, but is not limited to, allegations of sexualised behavior, indecent assault, inappropriate sexualised comments or sexual assaults.

Incidents are recorded for all facilities regardless of the presence of a minor or not.