

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 23 February 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE15/039) - Mental Health - Children in Nauru - Programme 3.1 Compliance, Detention and Status Resolution (Administered)

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah (L&CA 74) asked:

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: If this committee was to ask for the data set of the mental health statistics of children currently detained in Nauru, could you give it to us?

Mr Cahill: I would have to take that notice.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Do you have the capacity to give us that information?

Mr Cahill: We have information available, and I am happy to take that on notice and provide it to you.

Answer:

The portfolio receives regular mental health statistics regarding children at the Nauru Regional Processing Centre (RPC). The latest data, for the October-December 2014 quarter, indicates that during this period:

- 82 minors consulted a mental health nurse, 39 a counsellor, 21 a psychiatrist and 51 a psychologist.
- 32 minors had a psychological related diagnosis from a general practitioner (GP) or psychiatrist.
- 3 minors had a chronic disease diagnosis of depression
- 1 minor was receiving antidepressant medication.
- 1 minor was receiving antipsychotic medication.
- 11.1% of all GP diagnoses involving minors were related to mental health issues.
- There were no new disclosures of a history of torture and/or trauma.