

PDR Number: SQ17-000099

QON Number: AE17/053

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 06 March 2017

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE17/053) - Use of restraints statistics - Programme 1.5: IMA Offshore Management

Senator Pratt, Louise (L&CA 98) asked:

Mr Quaedvlieg: No. In fact, if you drop your definition or your threshold of what is a use-of-force incident, it actually by definition increases it. So, no, we are actually putting it out in the open. The point though is that with the increase in the section 501 cancellations and the general demeanour and antecedence of the people in that cohort, they are criminals, and they behave in that way and therefore we are getting a higher-risk behaviour in detention centres. And we need to apply use of force where it is, again, justified, and when it is it will be reasonable and proportionate.

Senator PRATT: Because you have a lower threshold on the definition of force overall, perhaps you might revisit the figures I asked for between 2013 and 2017 in relation to the use of restraints. Frankly, if you have changed the definition, it is not really a good indication anymore of how intrusive your conduct is—

Mr Quaedvlieg: Other than that we categorise by particular uses of force, and where restraints are actually used they are recorded as use of restraints.

Senator PRATT: Yes, and that is why perhaps I might ask you for the statistics on restraints specifically.

Mr Quaedvlieg: Sure, we can take that on notice.

Answer:

Statistics relating to Use of Force incidents where restraints were used in Held Detention are found below.

Table 1: Use of Force Incidents where restraints were used by Financial Year

Financial Year	Use of Force incidents where restraints were used
2016/17 to 27 February 2017	5,745
2015/16	7,071
2014/15	689
2013/14	133