

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/293) PROGRAMME – 3.5 and 3.6: Illegal Maritime Arrival (IMA) Offshore Management

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

On page 17 of the final report, it says that the MOU signed on 6 August last year provides for administrative measures to give effect to the objectives of the MOU to be settled between the participants, but no further measures have been settled.

- a. Have any further measures been settled?
- b. If not, why not?
- c. If so, what are they?
- d. Why was the Department telling detainees they were going to experience a lengthy wait? Possibly up to 4 years?
- e. Why did it take 12 days to respond to the detainee's questions?
- f. Page 58 regarding transferee accounts of the violence, some made official complaints about being attacked but nothing was done.
- g. What is the Department's response to this allegation?
- h. Are the additional 9 IHMS medical health practitioners employed to assist with those suffering PTSD from the incident still at the facility?
- i. If not, why not?

Answer:

a. b. and c. *Administrative Arrangements for the Temporary Regional Processing Centre* signed on 30 April 2013 under the previous MOU. New Arrangements are now in place. The Administrative Arrangements prescribe the roles and responsibilities of each party to the MOU.

d. The department did not advise transferees this.

e. That was the agreed timeframe.

f. and g. There is an ongoing Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary (RPNGC) investigation into the events of 16-18 Feb 2014. All official complaints have been referred to the RPNGC either directly or through the Cornall Review and are a matter for PNG authorities.

h. No.

i. This was a short term requirement.