

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 OCTOBER 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE14/387) PROGRAMME – 3.5 and 3.6: Illegal Maritime Arrival (IMA) Offshore Management

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

- What are the reporting structures for DIBP personnel in regards to violence?
 - Deaths at the facility?
 - Protests by asylum seekers?
 - Demands by asylum seekers?
 - How does the department deal with asylum seeker demands?
 - Are asylum seeker requests and demands reported to the Ministers office?
 - Does the Ministers office provide advice to the Department regarding these requests?
 - If not, who is the main point of contact for the department in regards to the outbreak of violence at the facility?
 - Is there a reporting structure in place for G4S staff that allows for asylum seeker demands and requests to be forwarded to the department?
 - If so, what are the details of this reporting structure?
 - Were asylum seekers' demands prior to the outbreak of violence passed onto the department?
 - Did the department advise G4S staff and managers on how to deal with these demands?
- Who does the Ministers office communicate with in the facility?
- a. Who is it?
 - b. What information was sought from this person?

Answer:

When an incident occurs at the Manus or Nauru Offshore Processing Centres (OPCs), service providers report directly to host government and on island departmental staff. Departmental staff will then report to on island Senior Executive Staff (SES) who will inform National Office in Canberra.

In the event of an incident involving protest behaviour, violence, serious illness, injury or death at a facility, service providers report directly to host government authorities and the department. Ongoing updates are provided to relevant stakeholders as an incident evolves, including when an incident ceases. In the event of serious injury, illness or death at an OPC, departmental staff report directly to Comcare.

Service providers manage all requests put forward by transferees and escalate as required to the host government and the department. The responsible party will then determine whether the request is to be escalated further, in accordance with agreed and documented protocols.

If an incident evolves that requires escalation to the Minister's office, departmental SES contact the Minister's office directly.