QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 OCTOBER 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE14/391) PROGRAMME – 3.5 and 3.6: Illegal Maritime Arrival (IMA) Offshore Management

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

What procedures are in place to identify persons at risk of suicide and/or self-harm? Are detention staff trained to appropriately manage persons who are at risk of suicide and/or self-harm?

Answer:

All detainees and transferees are supported under the department's Psychological Support Programme policy. This is the key policy for managing self-harm risk in immigration detention facilities and at the regional processing centres.

Mental health screening is offered at regular intervals and may also be offered at other times in response to behaviour of concern.

If a detainee or transferee presents a risk of self-harming behaviour they receive an elevated level of support and engagement from a multi-disciplinary team that is managed by a mental health clinician.

Detention services staff receive mental health awareness and mental health policies training to assist with the management of persons with mental health concerns and referral for appropriate care by the Health Services Provider.