

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 FEBRUARY 2008**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

### **(66) Output 1.5: Detention**

Senator Ellison asked:

Has the Minister made changes to the restrictions on out – of centre / recreational visits for detainees at Villawood?

*Answer:*

The Department has finalised a new Detention Excursions Instruction. This Instruction incorporates a more varied approach to excursions and does not automatically bar s501 (character) detainees, as recommended in the most recent HREOC Report. Under the Instruction all requests for excursions are assessed on the basis of security, proposed location and flight risk. The risk-based assessment of excursion requests will also consider issues such as the history of behaviour of the detainee, the purpose of the excursion and operational capacity. The Detention Service Provider will provide appropriate supervision during excursions. The Instruction was electronically uploaded onto the departmental Instructions system on 11 March 2008.