

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 21 FEBRUARY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(269) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Hanson-Young asked:

Following reports of growing unrest in detention centres, what minimum standards of training are all people working in these facilities receiving in mental health training and critical incident management?

Answer:

Mental health training is provided to staff working in places of immigration detention as follows:

- DIAC – An ‘Introduction to the Mental Health Policies’ course, of three hours duration, is conducted in conjunction with the College of Immigration and delivered to Case Management and Regional Management staff. A day long course is also delivered by clinicians from the NSW Institute of Psychiatry, entitled ‘Introduction to Mental Health’.
- Serco staff attend training in Understanding Mental Health delivered by a qualified trainer.
- IHMS staff attend a short course to explain key issues embedded within DIAC’s three mental health policies.