

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0415) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

The Hawke Williams report notes “the department engaged a suitably qualified independent auditor to conduct an audit of Serco’s contractual obligations relating to Security Risk Assessments of IDCs and People in Detention and is considering the outcomes of that audit”. When was the audit undertaken? Who was engaged to conduct the audit and what were the findings?

Answer:

On 23 April 2012, the department engaged *Protiviti* to conduct an independent audit of Serco’s records within the Compliance and Case Management Portal relating to Security Risk Assessments (SRAs) both for immigration detention centres and people in detention.

The main finding of the audit relating to Immigration Detention Centre Security Risk Assessments was that Serco was compliant with contractual obligations.

The main finding of the audit relating to Security Risk Assessments for people in detention was that SRAs and accompanying portal records do not provide a sufficient evidence base, and that SRAs were:

- consistently recorded by the Detention Services Provider on the Detention Services Portal;
- generally considered by the Detention Services Provider in developing Individual Management Plans (IMPs), accommodation placement reviews and operational orders for transport and escort task;
- not consistently conducted during the reception process for all detainees;
- not consistently reviewed on a monthly basis for each person in detention;

- generally incomplete and did not demonstrate adequate consideration of each section of the form (qualitative criterion); and
- not reassessed in all instances following the person in detention being involved in a disturbance or receiving information that may adversely affect their disposition.

The department has established a network of departmental security liaison officers whose role is to liaise, and work in collaboration, with personnel at each Immigration Detention Facility in relation to security and intelligence matters, which may include input to the detention service provider when reviewing individual SRAs.

In addition, the department has implemented the Detention Risk Assessment Tool (DRAT) at all onshore immigration detention facilities to identify, monitor and manage contractual risks under the detention services contracts. Through the DRAT program the department monitors SRAs to ensure contract compliance.