

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES - 25 FEBRUARY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE14/192) PROGRAMME – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

What past experience does Transfield have in regards to managing persons with possible mental health and psychological issues, such as post-traumatic stress disorder?

Answer:

Transfield Services has experience in delivering programmes and activities for Department of Defence personnel.

Transfield Services has engaged experts on, and recruited people qualified in welfare and case management services, and the government has confidence it has the capability to deliver these services at a high standard.

The Department of Immigration and Border Protection's contract with Transfield Services requires that it develop and implement a training program for its personnel and Australian-based subcontractors that addresses the department's Psychological Support Program policy (PSP) and any other mental health and wellbeing policy (as notified by the department from time to time).

Transfield Services must ensure its personnel and Australian-based subcontractors complete the PSP training program prior to initial deployment to an Offshore Processing Centre (OPC) or as soon as possible once persons are deployed to an OPC.