

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 May 2007

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(92) Output 1.5: Detention

Senator Nettle (L&CA 117) asked:

Can you provide us with any documentation outlining what sorts of things would lead to somebody being put in stage 1 at Villawood?

Answer:

Stage 1 at Villawood Immigration Detention Centre (VIDC) is a secure area that accommodates males who are assessed as requiring a higher level of management and/or supervision. This accommodation is suitable for a wide range of people in detention especially those that are a high security risk, high flight risk and/or a risk of self-harm.

A person in immigration detention may be accommodated in Stage 1 at VIDC in circumstances where (but not limited to the following):

- they have a significant criminal history (eg. murder or serious assault) and they require management and supervision during their transition from a prison environment to an immigration detention environment,
- they have assaulted another detainee or staff whilst in the IDC or made threats of violence and require short term segregation,
- they have been found with prohibited items likely to pose a threat to themselves or the safety of others in the centre (eg. illicit drugs, weapons and tools of escape),
- they have been identified as a high flight risk on the basis of reliable information,
- they have attempted or actually self harmed and have been psychologically assessed as requiring intensive observation (not requiring hospitalisation),
- they have been involved in a series of incidents resulting in disruption to and impact on the wellbeing of other detainees and/or the effective management of the centre.

All placements in Stage 1 are regularly reviewed in consultation with the detention services provider and health services providers. Consideration will be given to factors relevant to health and well being, family structure, availability of community support, likely immigration pathway, cultural sensitivities, availability of the specific type of detention accommodation and relevant security and other risk assessment factors.

These placement indicators are part of the DIAC risk-based client placement assessment framework for governing the management of detention placements. Under these arrangements, information is assessed against a combination of key indicators which form the basis for the placement decision. A copy of the Client Placement Model – Key Indicators is attached.