

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 23-24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0326) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash asked:

Has the Department been advised of any incidents of physical abuse or threats made against SERCO staff and/or their contractors within the detention network by detainees or other persons in each of the past 4 years?

Answer:

Serco reported 868 incidents of aggressive behaviour towards them since they began the Detention Services Contract in October 2009 to 30 June 2011. Contractors and other sources reported eight incidents of abuse or threats towards their staff members in the same period.