

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0512) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash (L&CA 107) asked:

In relation to a reported altercation between different ethnicities at Scherger, how many people were involved? If an investigation has been undertaken, what were the results of the investigation?

Answer:

Up to 32 people were involved in the reported altercation.

Depending on the nature and seriousness of the incident, the matter may be referred to the appropriate police authorities for investigation. The reported altercation between different ethnicities at Scherger was not considered serious enough to require referral to police authorities for investigation. However, Police were called to the site on the night of the incident as a precautionary measure.

In all cases, the alleged victims are given the option of reporting the alleged incident to Police. However, Police action is only initiated if there is a party willing to request that charges be laid. No charges have been laid as a consequence of this altercation.