

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0685) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash asked:

Will those who cause damage to the Leonora facility or other property be subject to criminal charges and if not, what is the justification for not charging these detainees.

Answer:

Depending on the nature and seriousness of the property damage, the matter may be referred to the appropriate police authorities for investigation. Decisions as to whether or not a person should be charged with criminal damage are a matter for the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions.

None of the alleged incidents of property damage occurring at Leonora over the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 were considered serious enough to require referral to police authorities for investigation.