

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 21-22 MAY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE12/0443) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Abetz (L&CA 83) asked:

Pontville: What analysis did you do of the trips? And would they have been penalised if there were only 300 trips instead of 307 trips?

Answer:

Excursions (or trips) are an element of Programs and Activities. Serco is required to undertake varied and meaningful Programs and Activities such as excursions and sporting activities for persons in immigration detention.

Individual analysis of Programs and Activities is not undertaken; however the Programs and Activities schedule is approved in advance by the Department and is based on the number and specific needs of people in detention.

Programs and Activities are assessed monthly by the Joint Facility Audit Team (JFAT), comprised of both Serco and DIAC staff. Where Serco has not met the minimum performance standards, financial abatements may be applied.

In the event that 307 Programs and Activities were listed on the approved schedule, yet only 300 were delivered, Serco would only be subject to abatement where prior agreement to reschedule or replace these activities was not sought from the Department.