

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 May 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE13/0342) PROGRAM – 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

Can the department confirm there will be no single adult males held at Curtin at the same time as families and children are held in the same facility? If the answer is no, how does the Department propose to house two different cohorts in close proximity?

Answer:

It is Australian Government policy that children will not be detained in an immigration detention centre. On 7 May 2013, the Echo and Gardenia compounds at the Curtin immigration detention facility, as well as the sporting field adjacent to the Echo and Gardenia compounds, were designated an Alternative Place of Detention with Echo compound used to accommodate families.

Gardenia compound contains shared medical and interview facilities. All shared areas are situated within the designated Alternative Place of Detention area. Therefore, at no time are children required to enter an area that is part of the immigration detention centre.

All movement from the immigration detention centre into shared areas is controlled. These areas are all monitored by a Serco presence during operating hours.

Families and single adult males have separate dining and activity areas.