

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

#### IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

#### **(88) Output 1.3: Enforcement of Immigration Law**

Senator Kirk asked:

The Adelaide Advertiser reported on 12 Sept 2005 that 4 people attempted suicide at Baxter Detention Centre within that past fortnight. Is this correct? How many people in total have attempted suicide at each of Australia's detention centres since Jan 1, 2005?

*Answer:*

The department does not judge as to whether an attempt or act of self harm is an attempted suicide. The department records all incidents of attempted and actual self-harm equally, regardless of the detainee's declared intentions.

Self harm is defined by the department as any self inflicted injury or the act of causing harm to oneself.

There have been 83 attempted or actual self harm incidents in detention centres since 1 January 2005 (to 21 November 2005).

Statistical Breakdown:

<b>Centre Breakdown</b>	
Baxter IDF	50
Christmas Island IRPC	4
Maribyrnong IDC	8
Port Augusta Residential Housing Project	1
Perth IDC	6
Villawood IDC	14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>83</b>