

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### **(273) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network**

Senator Cash asked:

What plans are there to ensure that the Villawood facility is secure and that these incidents will not happen again? Has the roof area been secured?

*Answer:*

Following the escapes from the Villawood Immigration Detention Centre (VIDC) referred to in question 270, a number of additional security measures have been completed. These include:

- upgrading the perimeter fence to incorporate anti-climb mesh along the length of the fence;
- construction of a 600mm wide anti-dig plinth under the fence line, and
- removal of several possible climb points.

The department has also reviewed the operation of the microphonics detection systems to ensure proper monitoring of the system by Serco staff.

In regard to securing the roof areas, the department has begun a works program to restrict access to the roof areas. These works include:

- replacing ceiling access covers with steel structures;
- placing restrictors on window openings, and
- applying anti-climb treatment to potential access points on the exterior of the buildings, such as downpipes.