

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 17 OCTOBER 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE11/0349) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash asked:

Jandakot Airport: The Department also advised that there was no community consultation prior to asylum seekers being moved to Jandakot Airport Chalets, as "there are no residential areas nearby". They advised that "nearby commercial activities were contacted". Please provide a copy of the information that was provided to "nearby commercial activities". Did the Department receive any feedback whatsoever from nearby commercial activities as a result of this contact by the Department?

Answer:

The reference to "nearby commercial activities were contacted" was a reference to advice provided to the department by the owners of the Jandakot Airport Chalets in regard to communication they had with Jandakot Airport Holdings regarding their intention to sign a contract with the department.

This was also a reference to oral communication that the department's detention services provider Serco had with local organisations in the context of providing detention services at the facility. These included:

- Jandakot Airport Holdings;
- Jandakot Airport Café;
- The Spud Shed;
- Super IGA Supermarket at South Lakes;
- Bullcreek Library;
- South Lake Leisure Centre, and
- Murdoch Police Station.

Following the signing of the contract, departmental officers were invited to a meeting with Jandakot Airport Holdings on 18 May 2011. A range of matters relating to the department's use of the Chalets were discussed at that meeting.