

**JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON AUSTRALIA'S  
IMMIGRATION DETENTION NETWORK**

**\*Q220\***

**Question:** What constitutes a family group? Do two brothers constitute a family group?

**Answer:** When determining the composition of a family unit, the department takes into account a number of factors, including family members or primary care givers of an accompanied minor. A family often comprises the child(ren) and their (natural or adopted) parents. Family members, such as grandparents or dependent adult siblings may also be included in a family unit.

Two brothers are considered to be a family group. Their placement in the detention network would be dependent on their ages. If they are both unaccompanied minors (UAMs) they would be accommodated at a facility suited for UAMs or, where appropriate, in a UAM community detention household.

The department endeavours to keep families together where appropriate.