

JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON AUSTRALIA'S IMMIGRATION DETENTION NETWORK

Q248

Question: Was there a list of criteria that the department went through in determining what location would be proposed to the minister?

Answer: The department's preference is to locate Immigration Detention Centres close to urban areas that have adequate services.

No formal criteria exists, however, a number of factors are taken into account when choosing the location of an IDF. These factors being:

- Consideration of whether an immigration detention facility is already established in the area
- Consideration of available Commonwealth property
 - The department works closely with the Department of Defence and the Department of Finance and Deregulations Commonwealth Land Register to identify available Commonwealth property
- That the potential site has adequate services such as:
 - accommodation – including for DIAC and service provider staff
 - power,
 - water,
 - sewerage,
 - telecommunications,
 - transport servicesor that the required service/s can be bought up to up to speed quickly and efficiently.
- Consideration of already established infrastructure on the potential site
- Consideration of the impact on the local community
- Environmental impact
- Heritage issues