

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES - 25 FEBRUARY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE14/296) PROGRAMME – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

The contract for humanitarian service provider the Salvation Army will not be renewed.

- What was the reason for this?
- Will there be a tender process for the provision of these services?
- If not, why?
- Will there be other arrangements for the provision of humanitarian services in offshore facilities?
- If not, who will assist detainees with humanitarian and welfare services?

Answer:

The contract with The Salvation Army was due to expire and a decision was made to consolidate service providers across both offshore processing centres to ensure continuity, consistency and integration of service delivery across both offshore processing centres (OPCs) as well as maximising efficiency and value for money for the Commonwealth.

The department released a Request for Quote (RFQ) to Transfield Services for the provision of garrison and welfare services at Manus and Nauru OPCs on 19 December 2013. The RFQ was released through a limited tender process to enable continuity of services.

Welfare services at OPCs were handed over to Transfield on 22 February 2014, following a transition period from 29 January 2014. Save the Children Australia's role in the provision of welfare services to children at Nauru OPC was expanded from 22 February 2014 to also include family cohorts and single adult females.