

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 21-22 MAY 2012**

#### **IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

#### **(BE12-0393) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network**

Senator Hanson-Young asked:

What is the Department's policy on visitors bringing fresh or cooked food to detainees? What are the Department's policies on visitors bringing fresh flowers to detainees? Are practices consistent across IDCs? Please provide documentation of the standard policy.

*Answer:*

Attached is a copy of the Instruction from the Department's Detention Services Manual which provides an outline of the items which are not permitted in immigration detention. Perishable food stuffs fall in to the list of 'Controlled Items' and these are inspected by the Detention Service Provider when they are presented at an immigration detention facility. Fresh flowers do not fall into the category of items not permitted in immigration detention and as such can be brought in to a facility, as long as they pose no direct health or other risk to the clients.

The information in this Instruction applies consistently across the immigration detention network.