

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013, 17 and 19 October 2012

Question: E12-175

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: ISSUES AT THE ALICE SPRINGS CORRECTIONAL CENTRE

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Number of pages: 1

Senator: Senator Boyce

Question:

What is the response by DoHA and FaHCSIA that the Alice Springs Correctional Centre in the Northern Territory is currently detaining a young Indigenous man with significant cognitive impairments and behaviours of concern including head banging which can render him with a serious injury and that the intervention by the ASCC to stop the head banging is to belt this young man in a restraint chair and then inject him with a tranquiliser to render him unconscious? This practice has now occurred four times the most recently on 6 October 2012.

Answer:

The Northern Territory government is responsible for the funding, legislation and policy underpinning the detention of people under mental health impairment legislation in the Northern Territory and decisions on the detention of people under such legislation is a matter for the territory.