

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 08 February 2016

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE16/043) - Children in detention - Programme 1.5: IMA Offshore Management

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah (L&CA 69/70) asked:

Mr Pezzullo: I would link that to the question we have already taken on notice from your earlier questions. We said that we would on notice come back with a breakdown as to children in our care—those who have been returned to Australia—who have got those conditions. I will just check what we took on notice compared to the words you have just used. But we will just add whatever words you have just used—so, anxiety, depression—

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Or other mental health problems.

Mr Pezzullo: We will give you an omnibus response on notice.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: This question is slightly different to the other one, because I am asking about all children and not just those out of the 267.

Mr Pezzullo: Sorry. Earlier today we were talking about the Nauru children, if I can use that term.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Yes.

Mr Pezzullo: Now you are asking?

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: I am asking how many children overall are in Australian detention or in Nauru—all the children. How many of those?

Mr Pezzullo: Noting that there are no children in detention in Nauru, certainly not under our care. So, children in Nauru, whether they are transferees or refugees, and transferred children who are in Australia temporarily for medical, or they are accompanying medical cases? Did you also ask about the Australian onshore detention network?

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Yes.

Mr Pezzullo: Noting that there are quite a small number of children—

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Once you have taken out the other transferees, yes.

Mr Pezzullo: Okay. We will come back on notice with those three categories. We will use a general lay definition—is it mental health issues that are of principal concern?

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Yes.

Mr Pezzullo: Inclusive of anxiety and depression?

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Yes.

Mr Pezzullo: We will come back on notice.

Answer:

As at 8 February 2016, 43 minors have been clinically diagnosed with a mental health condition, inclusive of anxiety and depression. This includes minors in Australia from the Nauru Regional Processing Centre, minors who, at the time, were residing in Immigration Detention Facilities in Australia and minors located at the Nauru Regional Processing Centre.