

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 26 May 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE15/053) - Children in Detention - Programme 1.3: Compliance and Detention

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA 14) asked:

Senator KIM CARR: What is the average length of time in detention for these children?

Ms Briscoe: I will have to take that on notice. I should be able to get back to you today on that one, but I do not have the number at hand.

Senator KIM CARR: What is the longest period of detention for a child? Who has been there the longest?

Mr Pezzullo: In an individual case?

Senator KIM CARR: I do not want to know the name. That is not our practice. But you should be able to tell me what the longest period in detention has been out of those 136.

Ms Briscoe: I will also take that on notice.

CHAIR: And why? Could you indicate as well whether it is related to their parents?

Answer:

As at 25 May 2015, of the 136 children in held immigration detention facilities the average time spent in held immigration detention was 335 days.

As at 25 May 2015, of the 136 children in held immigration detention facilities the longest time in held immigration detention of a child is 1113 days. This child is a part of a family where there is a serious law enforcement issue relating to one of the parents. The parents have been offered the opportunity to split the family to enable the children to be moved out of held detention and have declined.