

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 25 May 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE15/131) - Offshore Detention - Mental Health - Programme 1.5: IMA Offshore Management

Senator Lines, Sue (L&CA) written:

Do individuals have the equivalent of a routine 'check up', including mental health assessment, or are all contacts initiated by the individual?

For long-term detainees, are there any scheduled annual assessments for chronic physical or mental health concerns?

Answer:

All transferees receive a health induction assessment upon entry to immigration detention in Australia and prior to their transfer to a Regional Processing Centre (RPC). They are also offered regular mental health screening and can present at or be referred to onsite primary and mental health clinics as required. Anyone with an identified physical or mental health issue receives ongoing treatment and support as clinically indicated.

All transferees are offered an annual physical health check if they have not been assessed by an Internal Health and Medical Services General Practitioner over a 12 month period. A separate comprehensive psychiatric assessment is also undertaken for all persons who remain in detention/at an RPC for 18 months.

Transferees diagnosed with chronic disease are placed on an appropriate care plan by International Health and Medical Services, which is reviewed at least every 12 months.