

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 19 October 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE15/127) - ABYAN - Interactions - Programme 1.3: Compliance and Detention

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah (L&CA 51) asked:

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: My point is, Minister, that I would like to know from Mr Skill what they consist of, because this is clearly an issue of dispute, and I want to know what they are. Abyan, I understand, sought painkillers several times during her time in Villawood. Is that what some of these include, or are they all organised appointments? I would like a list of her interactions.

Mr Skill: I would be happy to provide that to you, if I get approval from her to access her records.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Thank you.

Mr Pezzullo: It might be that we would prefer to take it on notice so that I can review the actual information. The minister obviously acts on advice, and Mr Skill's area has no doubt generated some of this information. As to whether something is a review or a consultation, I think I would rather be very precise in our response, so my preference is to take it on notice.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Please do. I would like it to be precisely what occurred. Could I also ask—

CHAIR: I want to clarify something Mr Skill said. Did you say you would have to seek the consent of the person to divulge—

Mr Skill: —to access the records.

CHAIR: To access the records that Senator Hanson-Young is asking for?

Mr Skill: Yes. We have been able to access a chronology of the types of consultations, but what went on within those consultations is—

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: I am simply asking what the types of consultations are. I am not asking for what was discussed or anything like that. I am asking what they actually were, because that information has not been provided.

Mr Skill: No worries, Senator.

CHAIR: But you will still have to get permission?

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: No. He has that information. He just said that.

Mr Skill: I think it is going to be a fine line. That is why the secretary quite rightly said earlier that we should take this on notice. We have to confirm what it is we are able to provide without her consent, and what we can provide with her consent.

Answer:

While in Australia, and before her return to Nauru on 16 October 2015, Abyan met with IHMS on nine occasions (general practitioner, primary health nurse and mental health nurse reviews/consultations) and once with a general practitioner and nurse at the clinic where the termination procedure had been scheduled to occur. Consultations occurred each day during 11-15 October 2015.