

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 17 October 2016

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE16/137) - Separation of refugees and non-refugees on Manus - Programme 1.5: IMA Offshore Management

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA) written:

When did Australia first draw up a plan to separate refugees from non-refugees within the Manus Island Regional Processing Centre in order to encourage those inside the centre to leave (either for resettlement or removal)?

How many acts of self-harm were committed by men either at the MIRPC or East Lorengau over the past six months?

How many were classified as major or critical incidents?

How many acts of assault were reported?

How many of those acts were guards or staff assaulting asylum seekers/refugees - and vice versa?

How many assaults were asylum seeker/refugee on another asylum seeker/refugee?

How many men on Manus have been given 'positive' refugee status determinations on the basis of their sexuality?

What advice is provided to men currently on Manus who have been assessed as refugees because they are gay, and who are about to be resettled in PNG?

Answer:

When did Australia first draw up a plan to separate refugees from non-refugees within the Manus Island Regional Processing Centre in order to encourage those inside the centre to leave (either for resettlement or removal)?

In late-February 2016, the Papua New Guinea Immigration and Citizenship Service Authority (ICSA) opted to separate cohorts in the Manus Regional Processing Centre based on RSD status, for which it led the decision making and planning process. At the request of ICSA, the Department sourced and provided support and advice to enact the decision. The separation of cohorts was effected in early-April 2016.

How many acts of self-harm were committed by men either at the MIRPC or East Lorengau over the past six months?

From 1 April 2016 to 30 September 2016 there were 51 clinically assessed incidents of self-harm reported.

How many were classified as major or critical incidents?

While initial clarification of self-harm incidents are made by the Service Provider, under the Regional Processing Countries Health Services Contract, the contracted Health Services Provider, International Health and Medical Services clinically assesses an occurrence of self-harm which results in an injury to a Transferee and reports it to the Department as an Incident. Self-harm incidents are not further classified in terms of reporting to the Department.

How many acts of assault were reported?

10 assaults were reported in the Manus RPC and ELRTC between 1 April and 30 September 2016.

How many of those acts were guards or staff assaulting asylum seekers/refugees – and vice versa?

Of the ten assaults:

- five involved resident against service provider staff

How many men on Manus have been given “positive” refugee status determinations on the basis of their sexuality?

The Department has requested the information from the Government of PNG.

What advice is provided to men currently on Manus who have been assessed as refugees because they are gay, and who are about to be resettled in PNG?

All refugees are provided with information about the PNG community and support services available for settled refugees