

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

**ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 24 FEBRUARY 2009**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

### **(41) Output 1.5: Detention**

Senator Hanson-Young asked:

#### Christmas Island

- 1) How long did it take to get the Iraqi - Kurdistan family with a sixteen month old child and two older siblings released from the DIAC Construction Camp facility?
- 2) Are there any families still held in the DIAC Construction Camp facility? If so, what is the family make up, ages of the members of these families and how long have they been at the DIAC Construction Camp facility?
- 3) In the period of detention of these families in the DIAC Construction Camp facility, how many excursions out into the community have been undertaken by these families?
- 4) Are all movements of detainees within the DIAC Construction Camp facility required to be monitored at all times by a Global Solutions Ltd officer?

*Answer:*

- 1) Unaccompanied minors and families with minor children are the highest priorities for referral to the Minister for possible community detention placements and the resolution of their immigration status.

People are referred to the Minister for consideration of community detention placement when they have met health, identity and security requirements. For unaccompanied minors there is also a requirement to identify suitable accommodation and community based carers. In this case, the family was moved into a community detention placement as soon as minimum security requirements were satisfied.

- 2) As at 24 February 2009 there were no families accommodated in the Construction Camp.

- 3) N/a.

- 4) The level of monitoring of people in immigration detention by G4S, formerly called Global Solutions Ltd, is determined by operational needs including the level of restriction under which they are accommodated.

Upon arrival at the Construction Camp for immigration processing, their movements within the Construction Camp are restricted to protect the integrity of the entry interview process. During this initial processing stage, movements are monitored by the detention services provider. As people move through immigration processing, restrictions on movement within the Construction Camp are removed.