

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 22 May 2005**

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

### **(223) Output 1.3: Enforcement of Immigration Law**

Senator Ludwig asked:

Are cleaning services in any detention centres now conducted by the contractor or sub-contractors and not detainees?

- a. Which detention centres?
- b. Does this vary from centre to centre? If so, how?
- c. Has GSL's contract fee been adjusted?
- d. When was this policy change made?
- e. Why was this policy change made?
- f. Was there a review preceding the change?

*Answer:*

The situation at present is as originally set up under the contract, which is that the contractor or subcontractor(s) perform cleaning in office areas, reception areas, 'special list' areas such as medical centres, accommodation after a client leaves, and other 'ad-hoc' cleaning as needed.

This applies to all centres without significant variation between centres. Detainees currently participate in cleaning as part of meaningful activities.

The Department is currently negotiating variations to its contract with GSL to implement policy changes arising from the Detention Services Contract Review. These policy changes became effective on 1 March 2006, when the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs released the report of the Detention Services Review. It is likely that these variations will result in detainees ceasing to perform meaningful activities related to cleaning. This will apply across all centres and will require an adjustment to fees paid to GSL.