

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 MAY 2009

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### **(70) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Hanson-Young asked:

- (1) Under GS4's contract with DIAC how many hours of English lessons are clients required to receive?
- (2) Is this in line with the facilities provided to asylum seekers in detention centres on the mainland?

*Answer:*

- (1) There is no provision within the contract between the Department of Immigration and Citizenship and G4S that compels G4S to provide a particular number of hours of English lessons to clients in immigration detention on Christmas Island.

There is, however, a provision within the contract for G4S to provide activities, and this can include educational activities. In accordance with this provision, G4S offers English classes 5 days per week as part of their weekly activities program for clients. On each of these days, five one hour English classes are available to clients and they may attend at their discretion.

- (2) This is in line with the arrangements in immigration detention centres on the mainland.