

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 23-24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0554) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash (L&CA 53) asked:

What actually happened to the people who were involved in rooftop protests at the various detention facilities? Did they have their privileges removed? Were they not allowed to go on excursions?

Answer:

The consequences of the roof top protests vary; for some the matter may simply be dealt with by the Detention Service Provider (DSP) who will engage with the client about appropriate behaviour. Some more serious consequences for the clients involved in the April 2011 incident at Villawood, for example, resulted in clients being assessed as a higher risk and being moved to the Blaxland compound or the Maribyrnong Immigration Detention Centre, commensurate with their increased security risk.

Recreational excursions for clients located in the Blaxland compound have only just recommenced in August 2011 following the April disturbance.

Under the Detention Services Contract the DSP has the ability to use interventionist and/or restrictive measures against individuals who they deem to have behaved in an anti-social manner. These measures may include segregation, specific behaviour management agreements, withdrawal of access to amenities, use of curfews and restriction on periods of access to specific areas of the facility.