QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0708) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash (L&CA 83) asked:

How many incidents occurred on Christmas Island over the last month?

Answer.

In the 30 days to 24 May 2011, there were 474 reportable incidents across the various Christmas Island immigration detention facilities.

A 'reportable incident' includes any occurrence that Serco is required to report to the Department under the contract. These include minor issues, such as temporary power failures, IT systems failures and medical emergencies requiring clients to be taken offsite, as well as more serious issues such as disturbances, instances of threatened and actual self harm and escapes. Almost 40% of the 474 reportable incidents referred to above relate to Serco not responding to a complaint in the required timeframe.