

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(145 & 146) Output 1.3: Enforcement of Immigration Law

Senator Nettle asked:

What contact do DIMIA officers typically have with people under residence determinations? How regular is such contact typically?

How much surveillance is typically put on people under residence determinations? Provide some examples.

Answer:

Persons placed in the community under residence determination arrangements are not under “surveillance”.

Immigration detainees are placed in residence determination arrangements with conditions set that meet their individual circumstances. Generally, they must live at a specified address, report to DIMIA regularly and not engage in paid work. Other conditions may be specified by the Minister.

Typically this involves reporting to the Department at least once per week, either in person or by telephone, in accordance with details specified by the Department. The Department also generally visits persons in residence determination arrangements fortnightly in order to ascertain that they are complying with the conditions of their residence determination and to ensure that appropriate care and support arrangements are in place, including they have access to the relevant services and social support networks.

In addition, persons placed into the community on residence determination arrangements are given the contact details of a Department Liaison Officer and are encouraged to call that person if the need arises.