

**JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON AUSTRALIA'S  
IMMIGRATION DETENTION NETWORK**

**\*Q196\***

**Question:** Have any of the recommendations put forward by DeHAG in that meeting been implemented?

**Answer:** The department has undertaken, and continues to undertake, steps to improve mental health services for people in immigration detention in response to DeHAG recommendations. This includes:

- Commissioning a review of the former self-harm management protocols and developing new best-practice policies such as the Psychological Support Program.
- Increasing mental health staffing resources across the detention network, including in remote areas.
- Instituting regular psychiatrist visits to Christmas Island.
- Infrastructure changes, such as improving existing health facilities and de-commissioning others considered unsuitable (such as the observation rooms in the medical centre at the North-West Point Immigration Detention Centre (Christmas Island)).
- Pursuing an external review of the implementation of the Psychological Support Program.
- Gathering and analysing, in consultation with DeHAG, self-harm data to determine possible ways to manage self-harm risks.
- Increasing the use of community detention for vulnerable clients.