

FACT SHEET

Immigration Detention Values

The Rudd Labor Government has committed to these values by a decision of Cabinet.

These seven key values will inform all aspect of the Department of Immigration Detention Services.

The Government's immigration detention seven key values are:

1. Mandatory detention is an essential component of strong border control.
2. To support the integrity of Australia's immigration program three groups will be subject to mandatory detention:
 - a. all unauthorised arrivals, for management of health, identity and security risks to the community;
 - b. unlawful non-citizens who present unacceptable risks to the community; and
 - c. unlawful non-citizens who have repeatedly refused to comply with their visa conditions;
3. Children, including juvenile foreign fishers and, where possible, their families, will not be detained in an immigration detention centre (IDC);
4. Detention that is indefinite or otherwise arbitrary is not acceptable and the length and conditions of detention, including the appropriateness of both the accommodation and the services provided, will be subject to regular review;
5. Detention in IDCs is only to be used as a last resort and for the shortest practicable time;
6. People in detention will be treated fairly and reasonably within the law; and
7. Conditions of detention will ensure the inherent dignity of the human person.

These key values will underpin the operations of the Department and those that are contracted to provide detention services in any form.