



Australian
BORDER FORCE



Operational Inspection Report

Melbourne Immigration Detention Centre

24-26 February 2026

Released by Department of Home Affairs
under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*

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S. 47E(d)

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Background

In September 2025, the ABF Deputy Commissioner for Regional Operations initiated a six-week program of operational inspections across the onshore Immigration Detention Network (IDN). S. 47E(d)

s. 47E(d)

An Operational Inspection Team (OIT) was assembled from ABF National Office to undertake inspection activities in all immigration detention facilities and Alternative Places of Detention (APODs). Following the initial phase, the program will continue for a further 12 months to maintain oversight of the FDSP. S. 47E(d)

The OIT's activity is supplemented by daily operational assurance checks conducted by ABF facility-based staff. The intent of the operational inspection activity is to support the FDSP to deliver a safe, secure and sustainable IDN through gaining an immediate appreciation of the operational risks present across immigration detention facilities and identify critical areas for improvement.

Methodology

Three different methods will be used to collect evidence of Secure Journeys conducting operational activities in line with FDSP Policy and Procedure Manuals (PPMs) and the ABF's strategic objective to maintain a safe, secure and sustainable IDN. The inspection team will also consider best-practice where applicable to inform operational effectiveness.

Methods employed include **review** of documentation, including but not limited to PPMs, Risk Assessments, Departmental systems and post orders, **observations** of operational activity, CCTV footage and operational logs, and **interviews** and consultation with the ABF facility Superintendent and the Secure Journeys Centre Manager and staff.

Analysis of evidence will be undertaken against an operational effectiveness rating (effective, partially effective or not effective), with an operational risk assessment to be conducted based on the operational effectiveness rating for each targeted activity.

Operational Inspection of Melbourne Immigration Detention Centre (MIDC)

The ABF OIT attended MIDC between 24 and 26 February 2026 to conduct inspections of Secure Journeys' operational activity under the Immigration Detention Network (IDN) Operational Inspections program.

The OIT comprised Inspection Lead Superintendent S. 22(1)(a)(ii) and Observations and Reporting Officer Inspector S. 22(1)(a)(ii)

s. 47E(d)

The following report details the key observations, findings and recommendations for each operational activity. S. 47E(d)

s. 47E(d)



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Operational Inspection Report

Villawood Immigration Detention Centre

09-13 March 2026

Released by Department of Home Affairs
under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

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Background

In September 2025, the ABF Deputy Commissioner for Regional Operations initiated a six-week program of operational inspections across the onshore Immigration Detention Network (IDN), s. 47E(d)

s. 47E(d)

An Operational Inspection Team (OIT) was assembled from ABF National Office to undertake inspection activities in all immigration detention facilities and Alternative Places of Detention (APODs). Following the initial phase, the program will continue for a further 12 months to maintain oversight of the FDSP s. 47E(d)

The OIT's activity is supplemented by daily operational assurance checks conducted by ABF facility-based staff. The intent of the operational inspection activity is to support the FDSP to deliver a safe, secure and sustainable IDN through gaining an immediate appreciation of the operational risks present across immigration detention facilities and identify recommendations to mitigate these risks.

Methodology

Three different methods will be used to collect evidence of Secure Journeys conducting operational activities in line with FDSP Policy and Procedure Manuals (PPMs) and the ABF's strategic objective to maintain a safe, secure and sustainable IDN. The inspection team will also consider best-practice where applicable to inform operational effectiveness.

Methods employed include **review** of documentation, including but not limited to PPMs, Risk Assessments, Departmental systems and post orders, **observations** of operational activity, CCTV footage and operational logs, and **interviews** and consultation with the ABF facility Superintendent and the Secure Journeys Centre Manager and staff.

Analysis of evidence will be undertaken against an operational effectiveness rating (effective, partially effective or not effective), with an operational risk assessment to be conducted based on the operational effectiveness rating for each targeted activity.

Operational Inspection of Villawood Immigration Detention Centre (VIDC)

The ABF OIT attended VIDC between 09 and 13 March 2026 to conduct inspections of Secure Journeys' operational activity under the Immigration Detention Network (IDN) Operational Inspections program. The OIT comprised s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

s. 47E(d)

The following report details the key observations, findings and recommendations for each operational activity, s. 47E(d)

s. 47E(d)