



PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY  
TO THE PRIME MINISTER

Reference: C14/17335

24 MAR 2014

Ms Susan Wills  
9/81 Nightcliff Road  
NIGHTCLIFF NT 0810

Dear Ms Wills

Thank you for your correspondence to the Prime Minister, the Hon Tony Abbott MP, regarding your views about a range of issues. The Prime Minister has asked me to respond on his behalf.

I note your concerns about the Government's Direct Action Plan for addressing climate change. The Government is committed to caring for the Australian landscape through direct and practical policy measures to improve the environment and address the changing climate.

The Government is committed to reducing carbon emissions by 5 per cent below 2000 levels by 2020. This will be done through Direct Action, which is a less complicated and less costly way to reduce emissions. The centrepiece of the Direct Action Plan will be the Emissions Reduction Fund, which will use positive incentives to get businesses to reduce emissions. This is the right way to get emissions down.

You also raised concerns about the effect of economic growth on Australian communities. The Government has committed to grow the economy in order to create jobs, increase prosperity and ensure the sustainability of government services. A stronger economy means we can address social issues and pay down debt so future generations are not burdened with higher taxes.

The Government of Papua New Guinea is undertaking an investigation into the events at the Manus Island Offshore Processing Centre. As the events occurred in Papua New Guinea, any criminal actions will be dealt with under Papua New Guinean law.

The Department of Immigration and Border Protection has also initiated an independent review, to be undertaken by Mr Robert Cornall AO, to investigate and report on the key issues surrounding the incidents. It would not be appropriate to comment further until investigations have been completed.

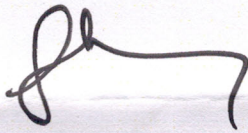


The Government is determined to stop the flow of illegal maritime arrivals.

Our border control policies are designed to safeguard vulnerable people from being exploited by people smugglers, prevent loss of life at sea, deny the people smugglers a product to sell and restore the integrity of our borders.

The Government is committed to offshore processing, which is a key element of the Government's comprehensive border protection strategies.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JF', written in a cursive style.

JOSH FRYDENBERG