



STATEMENT

**THE HON RICHARD MARLES MP
SHADOW MINISTER FOR IMMIGRATION AND BORDER
PROTECTION
MEMBER FOR CORIO**

INDEPENDENT INQUIRY NEEDED INTO CHRISTMAS ISLAND RIOT

Labor is today calling on Immigration Minister Peter Dutton to commission an independent inquiry into the riot that broke out at the Christmas Island Detention Centre on the weekend.

There are serious questions that need to be answered about the Government's handling of this situation.

We need an independent and full investigation into the events that transpired following the death of a detainee outside the centre on Sunday, including the violent protests.

It is critical we investigate the events at Christmas Island. We need to know that appropriate security is in place at the centre and staff are adequately trained to deal with detainees, including those that have had visas cancelled.

The community need to have confidence in the integrity and operation of Australian funded detention facilities.

The Government must ensure an inquiry into the events at Christmas Island is transparent.

Labor notes the death of the detainee at the weekend is the subject of a coronial inquiry. This is appropriate so that we are able to determine what the circumstances of his death were.

Labor would put in place independent oversight of all Australian funded facilities.

WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2015