



Management of Student Visas – Strangling the golden goose or protecting Australia's interests

Public hearing Wednesday 12 October 2011 in Canberra

The international education and training sector is Australia's third largest export industry. A recent Auditor-General report revealed, however, that the Department of Immigration and Citizenship's management of student visas has not kept pace with the demands of this dynamic environment. Issues were raised in regards to the Department of Immigration and Citizenship's student visa processing arrangements, compliance functions and strategic management relationship with the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

Considering these findings and the importance of the international education and training sector in terms of Australia's economy and population strategy, the federal parliament's Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit is holding a public hearing to examine Audit Report No. 46 2010-11, *Management of Student Visas*.

"The Committee is interested to see how well the Department of Immigration and Citizenship has responded to key areas of concern highlighted by the Auditor-General, particularly in light of recent developments in the sector", Chair Rob Oakeshott said.

The hearing will be held on **Wednesday 12 October**, from **12:00 noon to 1:00 pm** in **Committee Room 2S1, Parliament House Canberra**. Evidence will be given by the Australian National Audit Office, the Department of Immigration and Citizenship, and the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

Broadcast:

Live broadcasting through <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting>

An electronic copy of the program can be found at

http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jcpaa/auditgen6_11/hearings.htm

For media comment: please contact the Committee Chair, Rob Oakeshott MP, on telephone (02) 6584 2911

For more information: for information about the hearing, please contact the Committee Secretariat on telephone (02) 6277 4615, e-mail jcpaa@aph.gov.au, or visit the Committee website http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jcpaa/auditgen6_11/index.htm