

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 23 February 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

**(AE15/131) - Independent 457 Review - Programme 1.2 Visa and Citizenship
(Administered)**

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA) written:

When will the Government hand down its response to the independent 457 review chaired by John Azarias?

Will it take up the review recommendation to establish a tripartite body that is represented equally by Government, employee and employer bodies?

Answer:

The Government announced its response to the Independent Review into Integrity in the 457 Programme on 18 March 2015. The Government will act on recommendations of the 457 Integrity Review to strengthen integrity in the programme, while also reducing cost and burden on employers needing to access the programme to address genuine skill shortages.

The Government has supported-in-principle the reinstatement of the Ministerial Advisory Council on Skilled Migration (MACSM) with revised terms of reference to provide advice to Government on skilled migration matters.