

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/104) PROGRAMME – 1.3: Migration, Border Management and Citizenship

Senator Carr (L&CA 79) asked:

Senator KIM CARR: There are a number that are not quite so well known. Alphacrucis College teaches bachelor courses in ministry, theology and business. It is associated with the Assemblies of God Church. Do you have a view about religious providers being more reputable than state providers?

Mr Bowles: There is no view on those sorts of issues in the department. We go on the criteria of immigration risk.

Senator KIM CARR: Can you tell me why that particular college met the criteria and these other state systems were not able to?

Mr Bowles: Again, we base everything on our criteria. We can take on notice any specific issues, but a lot of these issues are confidential to the groups concerned. We will take it on notice.

Answer:

Eligibility to participate in streamlined visa processing (SVP) is based on an objective and transparent set of eligibility criteria. These criteria are applied equally to each education provider.

An education provider's ability to meet SVP eligibility criteria will depend on a number of factors, including the effectiveness of the strategies that it has in place to identify and recruit genuine international students.