

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 23 May 2017

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE17/073) - 457 Changes - Advice to MACSM - Programme 2.3: Visas

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA 11) asked:

Senator KIM CARR: What modelling was undertaken to support this process? Mr Pezzullo: The consultation with both the employment department the education department, which Ms Noble referred to earlier, did involve examination of the data that she spoke about. Whether that strictly met the definition of modelling, I will ask Ms Noble as I am not sure.

Senator KIM CARR: So there is data analysis from the department of education and employment.

Mr Pezzullo: The departments—plural. That was covered in the evidence you heard earlier. On whether that meets the strict definition of 'econometric modelling', I will defer to Ms Noble.

Ms Noble: I think it would be better to direct those sorts of detailed questions to the Department of Employment and the Department of Education and Training. Other than the list I read out to you before, I do not have information about whether or not that would constitute econometric modelling.

Senator KIM CARR: But the advisory committee would surely have records of that?

Ms Noble: Are you talking about the Ministerial Advisory Council on Skilled Migration?

Senator KIM CARR: Yes.

Ms Noble: We would have to take that on notice.

Senator KIM CARR: I would like to know what advice was presented to that committee on the impact of these changes.

Ms Noble: We can take that on notice.

Senator KIM CARR: In particular, I would like to know the effect on demand and on business operations.

Ms Noble: We can certainly take that on notice.

Answer:

The Ministerial Advisory Council on Skilled Migration (MACSM) commenced a review of the composition and effectiveness of the Consolidated Skilled Occupation List (CSOL).

Between 19 June 2015 and 23 May 2017, occupations list reform was discussed in all eight MACSM meetings held 19 June 2015, 18 September 2015, 11 December 2015, 8 April 2016, 17 June 2016, 23 September 2016, 2 December 2016 and 24 March 2017.

MACSM were consulted on a number of aspects of the changes introduced on 19 April 2017 including:

- the removal of occupations; and
- the use of occupation caveats.