

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 23 May 2017

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE17/111) - Family Violence provisions - number of family violence claims by visa type - Programme 2.3: Visas

Senator Ketter, Chris (L&CA 64) asked:

Senator KETTER: My questions relate to the existing provisions that are in place at the moment, not the ones that are down the track. Perhaps I will go back and ask those questions again in that context.

Ms Dacey: I have got some statistics, if you are looking for that sort of assistance.

Senator KETTER: Yes.

Ms Dacey: I have got from 2013-14 to 2014-15, 2015-16. I can give you numbers of total claims, numbers of judicial evidence, numbers of non-judicial evidence and numbers that were agreed by the independent expert. Is that the sort of data that you are looking for?

Senator KETTER: Yes. That would be helpful. In terms of the length of time it takes to process one of those applications?

Ms Dacey: I do not have that particular piece of data in front of me. We can take it on notice.

Senator KETTER: Are you able to provide information on the number of family violence claims by visa type?

Ms Dacey: Not with me. I am happy to take it on notice and see what we can get you. But it is typically in the partner space.

Senator KETTER: Typically—I am sorry?

Ms Dacey: Partner visas.

Answer:

The family violence provisions are available to Distinguished Talent or Partner visa applicant who are in Australia.

For the period reported in the table below only Partner visa applicants made claims under the family violence provisions:

2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17 (as at 31 May 2017)
668	451	533	497

The average processing time for finalisation of a Partner visa application is three to four months where the claims of family violence are:

- supported by judicial evidence; or
- supported by acceptable non-judicial evidence (that is, evidence the Department accepts without referring the matter to the independent expert for assessment).

Partner visa applicants referred to the independent expert for assessment are finalised in approximately six to seven months from the date the claim is made.