

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 22 May 2017

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE17/170) - 457 Changes - music professionals - Programme 2.3: Visas

Senator Kakoschke-Moore, Skye (L&CA) written:

Q – Is the Department aware of the already intensive labour market testing that leads to the need for a music professional on a 457 visa?

Q – Was this background considered when the decision to remove music professionals from the Skilled Occupation List?

Answer:

1. Yes. The labour market testing requirement in the 457 visa is designed to ensure that the subclass 457 visa programme is only used to meet genuine skill shortages and cannot be used by businesses that do not make genuine efforts to provide employment opportunities to Australians.
2. Yes. The changes to the occupation lists were made after careful consideration of broad range of factors. Occupations are selected by the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection for inclusion on an occupation list following advice from the Department of Education and Training and the Department of Employment, such as labour market analysis, as well as stakeholder consultation and feedback.

The new occupation lists are designed to be dynamic, and will be regularly updated based on labour market analysis and stakeholder feedback.