

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 22 May 2017

#### IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

#### **(BE17/268) - Citizenship changes – Budget impacts - Programme 2.1: Citizenship**

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA) written:

The budget for citizenship has a saving over the forward estimates. Where does the saving come from? What assumptions are you using and how did the figures get calculated?  
Are there any other budget impacts?

*Answer:*

The savings for this measure are due to the introduction of new language and other requirements, which are expected to result in a decreased number of citizenship test applications, sittings and re-sittings. The reduced costs from the lower number of applications, sittings and re-sittings have been reflected in DIBP costings. The Department expects approximately 20,000 fewer applications per annum – refer table below:

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
<i>Forecast volume of citizenship applications prior to 2017-18 Budget measure</i>	177,047	183,373	189,925	196,712
<i>Reduction in applications per 2017-18 Budget measure</i>	- 20,000	- 20,000	- 20,000	- 20,000
<i>New forecast volume of citizenship applications</i>	157,047	163,373	169,925	176,712

Other budget impacts include a net revenue decrease resulting from the lower application volumes as stated above. The revenue decrease is partially offset through the removal of concessional fees for certain applicants.