QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 OCTOBER 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE14/179) PROGRAMME - Internal Product

Senator Cameron (Written) asked:

With reference to the Department's 457 statistical report which shows that at 30 June 2014 there were 25,610 Subclass 457 visa holders in Australia employed in Skill Level 3 occupations:

a. How many Australian apprentices are employed and trained by the employers of these 25,610 457 visa workers in what are mainly apprenticeship trades? Does the Department even collect data on the number of Australian apprentices in these 457 firms? If not, why not?

Answer:

Businesses are required to provide information to the department on their workforce composition when they apply to become a sponsor under the 457 programme. This includes the total number of Australian and overseas workers in their employment and whether the Australian employees are professionals, tradespersons, recent university graduates, apprentices or other trainees. This information is used by the department to assess whether an employer meets the criterion on training Australians before their 457 sponsorship can be approved.

This information is not entered into departmental reporting systems so statistics are not available.