

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Treasury Portfolio**  
Budget Estimates, 1 to 4 June 2004

**Question: Bud 75**

**Topic: Temporary Residents – Revenue Collected**  
**Hansard Page: E8**

Senator Sherry asked:

It has been revised down. That is because of the take-up rate. The other assumptions, I think you have already said—

**Dr Rothman**—They are broadly the same.

**Senator SHERRY**—So it is critically the take-up rate.

**Dr Rothman**—Yes.

**Mr Coles**—Perhaps I can refer you to what Mr Smith said on 19 February. Basically, he said that the \$70 million per annum figure has been downgraded but the government has not published a separate estimate. We can take that question on notice.

**Senator SHERRY**—You know I know that. For the record, this would be the second time I have asked for the figure of the revenue collected in the adjusted down forward estimates. Another senator has also asked for this and there was obviously an order of the Senate, which I am sure you are aware of, so it is the fourth time you have been asked. Will you provide the figure?

**Mr Coles**—I think that is a matter to be taken on notice.

**Senator SHERRY**—So you refuse to provide it today?

**Mr McCullough**—It is not that I refuse to provide it today. I have been through this before. Those sorts of questions where there is no published disaggregation of a figure need to be taken on notice by us in order to have a reasonable opportunity to run them by the minister.

Answer:

Estimates created or revised since the Charter of Budget Honesty election costings form the basis of policy advice to the Government.