

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Australian Electoral Commission

Additional Estimates Hearing – 13 February 2007

Question: F25

Outcome 1.1 Electoral Roll, Output 1.1.2 Roll Review

Topic: Collection of enrolment applications from new citizens

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Senator Faulkner asked:

Mr Moyes—What we do with the participants who do not lodge a form at the time is that our divisional people follow up with the councils—it is usually the councils that are bestowing citizenship. Our people are in contact with the councils and obtain information about those who have had citizenship bestowed on them and we follow up directly with those people.

Senator FAULKNER—How many people does that cover off?

Mr Moyes—I cannot give you a figure on that at the moment. I will see if we can obtain that information. We do collect information on the source of enrolment applications and we should be able to pick up most of that difference

Answer:

Where possible, Divisions obtain the list of people who have had citizenship bestowed from the local council officiating at the ceremony. Divisional staff will then follow up the enrolment of those people who have not submitted an enrolment application. This occurs for those ceremonies the Australian Electoral Commission attends and for those it does not. Data matching with information from the Department of Immigration and Citizenship shows that approximately 90 per cent of new citizens are enrolled within 3 months of becoming a citizen.