

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 February 2008

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(43) Output: Internal Product

Senator Ellison asked:

- (1) How did the Minister's office receive safe hand and top security documents during the period immediately after the swearing in of the new Ministry?
- (2) What staff were able to receive these documents and did they have the appropriate security clearance at this time?

Answer:

- (1) The Minister's office received safe hand items and top security documents via:
 - ASIO approved overnight and safe hand commercial courier services;
 - ASIO approved secure communication devices; and
 - Hand to hand delivery through appropriately cleared DIAC staff.
- (2) The Minister and the Departmental Liaison Officers were the only officers with the appropriate security clearances to receive these documents. All classified material was passed to these officers only.