

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 9 FEBRUARY 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(1) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Barnett (L&C 6) asked:

What was the cost of establishing the original MARA website?

Answer:

An answer has been provided to this question in the department's response to Questions taken On Notice from the October 2009 Supplementary Budget Estimates hearings of the Committee (refer QON8 from October 2009).

The department does not have access to the detailed breakdown of the former MARA's financial records that would be required to answer this question precisely.

However, the Migration Agents Registration Authority (MARA) 2008-2009 Annual Report, tabled in Parliament on 27 October 2009, shows the MARA's internet expenditure for last financial year was \$275 081, up from \$50 937 in 2007-2008. The Department understands that this increase was almost wholly due to the establishment of the website.