

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 9 FEBRUARY 2010

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### (63) Program 6.1: Multicultural and Citizenship Services

Senator Fifield (L&C 118) asked:

Provide data on the number of applications for citizenship and the number granted, and the average processing times by each of the main offices around Australia since 1 July 2009 to date, by month?

*Answer:*

The Department decides applications for Australian citizenship and approves those applications where the client meets the criteria. The three types of applications for citizenship are citizenship by conferral, citizenship by descent and resumption of Australian citizenship. Most conferral applications are processed on-shore in Australia. The main offices listed below account for nearly 90% of all conferral applications received. For most conferral applicants, Australian citizenship is not acquired (conferred) until the client makes the Australian Citizenship Pledge at a ceremony.

#### July 2009

Location	Client conferral applications received	Client conferral applications approved	Average processing time for all decided cases (in days)
Sydney	3410	1956	47
Parramatta	1671	1360	37
Melbourne	2163	714	56
Dandenong	1202	840	37
Perth	1531	1709	32
Brisbane	1399	1345	28

#### August 2009

Location	Client conferral applications received	Client conferral applications approved	Average processing time for all decided cases (in days)
Sydney	3550	2416	53
Parramatta	1740	1900	39
Melbourne	2186	1105	48
Dandenong	886	852	36
Perth	1424	1657	27
Brisbane	1115	1025	31

**September 2009**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Client conferral applications received</b>	<b>Client conferral applications approved</b>	<b>Average processing time for all decided cases (in days)</b>
Sydney	2753	2550	70
Parramatta	1287	1373	44
Melbourne	1985	1867	51
Dandenong	1064	989	34
Perth	1485	1225	33
Brisbane	1418	1071	25

**October 2009**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Client conferral applications received</b>	<b>Client conferral applications approved</b>	<b>Average processing time for all decided cases (in days)</b>
Sydney	2343	4780	55
Parramatta	1085	1580	39
Melbourne	1881	1865	64
Dandenong	1224	912	41
Perth	1765	1355	29
Brisbane	1132	1020	49

**November 2009**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Client conferral applications received</b>	<b>Client conferral applications approved</b>	<b>Average processing time for all decided cases (in days)</b>
Sydney	2840	2645	55
Parramatta	1032	1068	52
Melbourne	1868	1886	81
Dandenong	870	1183	34
Perth	1476	1613	28
Brisbane	1184	1176	60

**December 2009**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Client conferral applications received</b>	<b>Client conferral applications approved</b>	<b>Average processing time for all decided cases (in days)</b>
Sydney	2034	1944	47
Parramatta	685	861	38
Melbourne	1323	1160	78
Dandenong	804	698	40
Perth	1101	868	33
Brisbane	908	855	48

**January 2010**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Client conferral applications received</b>	<b>Client conferral applications approved</b>	<b>Average processing time for all decided cases (in days)</b>
Sydney	2491	1914	53
Parramatta	831	634	42
Melbourne	1906	1183	81
Dandenong	733	655	42
Perth	1349	1003	39
Brisbane	1152	1009	59