

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 FEBRUARY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(45) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Cash asked:

What action can be taken to redress this issue?

Answer:

IELTS is providing the Department with regular updates on the progress of additional integrity measures including the global implementation of their Test Day Photography (TDP) Program, which will mitigate fraud risks.

The TDP Program involves the use of software specifically designed for high stakes testing environments to capture photos of IELTS candidates prior to their approved entry into the test room and is supported by finger scanning technology.

IELTS Australia anticipates that the TDP will be deployed in Australia by the end of April 2011. IELTS has commenced deployment in India and China. IELTS partners will be meeting in Hong Kong in March 2011 to finalise a rollout schedule for India and China.