

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 FEBRUARY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(48) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Cash asked:

What is the methodology to be adopted for the Review?

Answer:

The Department's project plan for the Review of the Business Skills Visa program includes the following steps:

- Undertake a review of the program including consultation with the visa processing centres and the State and Territory governments.
- Collate feedback and prepare a discussion paper for an interdepartmental committee (IDC) meeting.
- Review feedback from the IDC and consult with internal Department expertise.
- Further consultation with the Commonwealth State Working Party on Skilled Migration.
- Publish public discussion paper on the Department of Immigration and Citizenship website (immi.gov.au).
- Review feedback and present program amendment options to the Skilled Consultative Panel on Migration, State & Territory governments and the IDC.
- Make recommendations to the Minister for Immigration & Citizenship on possible amendments to the Business Skills program.