

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0162) PROGRAM – Migration Review Tribunal and Refugee Review Tribunal

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

With reference to Recommendation 12 of the Lavarch Review – “That Member Teams be reorganised based upon caseload streams and created on a national basis and that Senior Members be allocated as team leaders on the cases of expertise within particular visa categories. A six month pilot should be commenced immediately.” On what date did the pilot commence and when will the pilot conclude? Has any feedback been received on the pilot so far? If so, what was the nature of the feedback?

Answer:

The MRT-RRT proceeded to a full implementation of this recommendation by introducing member teams based on caseload streams from July 2012. An interim report on the implementation of the model, completed in January 2013, found that the implementation of the model had been smooth and that the opportunities provided by specialisation had resulted in the adoption of more efficient practices for particular caseloads, and an increase in productivity.