

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0281) PROGRAM – Internal Product

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

Provide a breakdown of how the \$0.4 million pledged in MYEFO will be spent across four years to biometrics for visa and border processing? How much will be spent each year? What measures are being implemented?

Answer:

The funds provided by the government over four years from 2012-13 (\$0.1 million per year) will be reallocated from funds earlier allocated for the collection of biometrics overseas.

All funds allocated are expected to be spent.

The measures being implemented will enable the department to broaden biometrics collection to include applications lodged over the internet (previously only applications lodged using paper forms were in scope) and to expand to new overseas locations.