

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0448) PROGRAM – 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Boyce (Written) asked:

At the end of October 2012, then Minister Bowen announced that DIAC would apply a 'net benefit' test to immigrants with a disability or with a health issue. He undertook to conduct consultations on detailed implementation of the reforms with key stakeholders. (a) Have any immigrants been allowed to settle in Australia under the 'net benefits' approach who would have otherwise not qualified? How many? (b) How are you proposing to measure and monitor the success, or otherwise, of the 'net benefits' approach?

Answer:

The Department is currently assessing the feasibility, costs and implementation of a Net Benefit Approach. Stakeholder consultations on the approach are under way.

Following this process, key performance indicators will be developed prior to implementation.