

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 23 May 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(271) Output 2.1: Settlement Services

Senator Hurley (L&C 37) asked:

How many volunteers have received payments from ACL or their consortium partners, Mission Australia, to support refugees settling in the Newcastle and Hunter region and what has each volunteer received to date?

Answer:

ACL advises that Mission Australia will reimburse volunteers up to \$20 per visit for expenses and up to \$120 in expenses for visits to a single client/family.

Volunteers need to submit receipts to claim any expenses. Newcastle and Hunter region volunteers were advised of these arrangements during their training sessions with Mission Australia. Claims can be submitted on an on-going basis, or if volunteers prefer at the completion of six visits (the average number of visits Mission Australia suggests).

To date no volunteers have submitted a claim in the Newcastle and Hunter region.