

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 22 May 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(36) Output 1.1: Migration and Temporary Entry

Senator Carr (L&C 45) asked:

Provide advice on how many referrals have been made and what action has been taken on those.

Answer:

During the period 1 July 2005 to 31 May 2006, 37 referrals have been made to other agencies such as the Australian Tax Office, the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations and other state and federal agencies.

Ten referrals were made to the Australian Tax Office (ATO). Due to legislative restrictions, ATO is unable to provide DIMA with the outcome of their investigation.

Twenty two referrals were made to Department of Employment Workplace Relations/Office of Workplace Services. Some of these investigations are currently ongoing. Some investigations have been finalised and sanctions have been imposed and in other cases, where a minor breach was identified, sponsors have been counselled. DIMA is working with these sponsors and will re-monitor to ensure continued compliance.

Five referrals have been made to other State and Federal agencies such as the Department of Consumer and Employment Protection (DOCEP) and the NSW Department of State and Regional Development.