

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 22 May 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(40) Output 1.1: Migration and Temporary Entry

Senator Carr (L&C 51) asked:

In relation to the meat industry, how many times have they been referred to the overseas posts?

Answer:

The present structure of reporting from the Department's systems does not enable referrals to be broken down by industry grouping. Obtaining this data would require a detailed search of each hard copy file for every applicant relevant to the meat industry. However, it should be noted that business centres have been issued instructions that it is important to be satisfied that skilled work is involved in the meat occupations gazetted for 457 visa purposes, and that applications be referred to the relevant post for integrity checking wherever there is any doubt.