

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 29 MAY 2008

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(57) Output 2.1: Settlement Services

Senator Ellison (L&CA 13) asked:

Provide information on state and territory government rules and laws on leasing arrangements where it poses a constraint on the provision of housing for humanitarian entrants.

Answer:

In New South Wales (NSW) the Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Strategy (IHSS) service providers secure short-term accommodation for newly-arrived IHSS clients leased in the service provider's name, as NSW tenancy laws prohibit head leased properties being transferred to another tenant. The IHSS service providers then source and secure long-term accommodation in the client's name. This constraint means that NSW service providers are not usually able to place IHSS clients in NSW directly into long-term accommodation on arrival.