

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 28 MAY 2009**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(55) Program 5.1: Settlement Services for Migrants and Refugees**

Senator Fierravanti-Wells (L&CA 75) asked:

Provide a copy of all the correspondence between DIAC and the Audit Office relating to the Settlement Grants matter.

*Answer:*

Copies of correspondence between DIAC and the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) in relation to its audit of the Settlement Grants Program are at Attachment A.

There is a small amount of material that was produced both as part of the Issues Paper and s19 proposed report process. Advice from the ANAO is that "Such material is the property of the ANAO and was created solely for the purpose of verifying the accuracy and completeness of the information and to obtain views on conclusions reached, as part of drafting the final audit report. The final report is a public document and represents the considered views of the Auditor General".

The Department is, therefore, not in a position to release this material.