

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 24 MARCH 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0773) Program 6.1: Multicultural and Citizenship Services

Senator Michaelia Cash (Written) asked:

Is there an acceptable level of new arrivals not taking up citizenship?

Answer:

The Department does not set an acceptable level for the take up of Australian citizenship.

The decision to become an Australian citizen is a personal one, with many factors influencing that decision.

On behalf of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship, Australian Survey Research recently conducted a study on the settlement outcomes of new arrivals in Australia. The study indicated one of the main reasons people may choose not to become an Australia citizen was because their country of origin did not allow dual citizenship.