



Australian Government
Department of Immigration and Citizenship

5 July 2011

Ms Julie Dennett
Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee
Room S1.61
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

File ref: ADF2011/1557

Dear Ms Dennett

Budget Estimates Hearing Questions Taken on Notice – May 2011

At the Budget Estimates hearings held in May 2011, the portfolio took on notice 793 questions (and 1144 when subparts are separately counted), for which the Committee has set 8 July 2011 as the deadline for receipt of answers.

While every effort is being made to respond to the questions within the required deadline, the volume of questions taken on notice and the level of detail asked for has put a very significant burden on key areas of the Department. As a result of this, I would like to flag with you now that I expect there will be some delay in finalising responses. I would like to assure you and the Committee that the Department is fully committed to providing responses to the questions on notice as soon as possible, and all endeavours will continue to be made in this regard.

I would be grateful if you could bring this to the attention of the Committee Chair and other Senators as appropriate.

Yours sincerely

Renelle Forster
Assistant Secretary
Ministerial and Executive Services Branch

people our business