

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 MAY 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE13/0216) PROGRAM – MRT-RRT

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

What is the set aside rate for spouse and prospective spouse visas? What is the absolute number of those cases? I.e. how many spouse visas were reviewed and how many were set aside?

Answer:

For the financial year to 31 May 2013, the set aside rate for Prospective Spouse visa cases was 58 per cent out of 205 decided cases. This is lower than for the same period last year, when it was 61 per cent out of 169 decided cases.

For the financial year to 31 May 2013 the set aside rate for Spouse visa cases was 52 per cent out of 1,111 decided cases. This rate is lower than for the same period last year, when it was 54 per cent out of 831 decided cases.

The combined set aside rate for Spouse and Prospective Spouse visas this financial year to 31 May was 53 per cent out of 1,316 decided cases. This is lower than for the same period last year, when the set aside rate was 56 per cent out of 1,000 decided cases.

At 31 May 2013 there were 2,105 active Spouse visa cases and 212 active Prospective Spouse visa cases with the MRT, a total of 2,317 cases.