

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(158) Output 1.3: Enforcement of Immigration Law

Senator Bartlett asked:

Do arrivals picked up by DIMIA at airports (without documents or with false docs) get legal advice?

Answer:

There are statutory obligations under the Migration Act which require immigration officers to provide reasonable facilities for a person to access legal advice.

If a person wishes to avail him or herself of legal advice he or she is provided with a telephone directory and a telephone. DIMIA officers do not suggest the person obtain the services of any specific lawyer.

Access to a migration agent, at no cost to the Protection Visa (PV) applicant, may be provided through the Immigration Advice and Application Assistance Scheme (IAAAS).

DIMIA also offers persons access to their consular representative.