QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(160) Output 1.3: Enforcement of Immigration Law

Senator Bartlett asked:

Who currently does the interviews and who is present at interviews for airport pickups?

Answer:

DIMIA airport inspectors are responsible for interviewing persons whose immigration status requires resolution at the border. Where required, interpreters are accessed through the Telephone Interpreter Service.

Where issues are raised which might impact on Australia's convention obligations the results of the interview are referred to specialist staff.