

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(192) Output 2.1: Settlement Services

Senator Hurley asked:

How is the administration of the settlement grant policy going to be set up and what will be the formation of the executives responsible for implementing of the new settlement grant.

Answer:

The annual funding cycle is summarised below:

Funding round opened <i>October 2005</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advertisements calling for applications appear.• Applications preferably lodged on-line.
Round closes <i>Minimum of six weeks after round opens</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All applications and supporting documentation are lodged.
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All eligible applications are assessed by DIMIA.
Minister's Announcement <i>May 2006</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs announces the successful applications.• All applicants are advised in writing of the outcome of their applications.
Work Program/Milestones/ Budget Negotiation <i>May-June 2006</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DIMIA State and Territory offices negotiate with successful organisations an Approved Work Program, Milestones and an Approved Budget which form part of the Funding Agreement.
Agreements signed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Projects commence on <i>1 July 2006</i>.

Grants awarded under the Settlement Grants Program will be administered by Grants Managers in each DIMIA State and Territory office. DIMIA National Office will provide policy and technical support to Grants Managers in administering grants, as currently happens under the Community Settlement Services Scheme (CSSS) grants program.