

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(194) Output 2.1: Settlement Services

Senator Hurley asked:

Can you provide a list of the targeted community groups for the settlement grant policy?

Answer:

The Settlement Services Target Group under the Settlement Grants Program (SGP) commencing on 1 July 2006 is:

- permanent residents who have arrived in the previous five years either as humanitarian entrants or as family stream migrants with low English proficiency; and
- communities that require assistance to develop their capacity to organise, plan and advocate for services to meet their own needs and which are still receiving significant numbers of new arrivals in the Settlement Services Target Group.

While skilled migrants and their families are not part of the Settlement Services Target Group, to complement regional migration initiatives and in recognition of the additional challenges these entrants may face in settling in regional areas, the dependents of skilled migrants settling in regional areas with low English proficiency are eligible to access SGP services.

Further detail on communities that have been identified at a state/territory and/or regional level as being in need of assistance through the SGP is available on the department's community grants website (<http://www.immi.gov.au/grants/>), under the *2006-07 Settlement Grants Program – Settlement Needs* link. This information has been provided to assist organisations applying for funding in the 2006-07 SGP funding round to target their applications towards communities and locations in the greatest need of settlement assistance.