

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(223) Output 2.2: Translating and Interpreting Services

Senator Hurley asked:

Clients living in rural areas that do not have dual handset to facilitate telephone interpreting service are missing out according to the report of the review of settlement services for migrants and humanitarian entrants 2003. Is anything being done to overcome this problem?

Answer:

The issue of supply of dual handsets to facilitate telephone interpreting services in rural areas was part of submission from the Newcastle and Hunter Region Migrant Resource Centre to the Report of the Review of Settlement Service for Migrants and Humanitarian Entrants. The observation was not a Recommendation of the Review and has not received any priority or funding to supply handsets.