

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(306) Output 3.2: Services for Indigenous Australians

Senator Evans asked:

This scheme is apparently tied to increasing Indigenous home ownership. In this context, are there figures available to show what percentages of current non home owning Indigenous families have the income to support a mortgage?

Answer:

The new Home Ownership on Indigenous Land Programme run by Indigenous Business Australia provides a flexible loans/grant package combined with a discount on the purchase price, designed at ensuring home loan affordability for moderate income earners. Preliminary analysis using Census 2001 Weekly Individual Income tables would indicate that over a third of Indigenous people living in remote townships who are employed or participating in employment seeking activities such as CDEP, would meet the basic requirements for the minimum loan size. Other criteria such as rental payment and credit history and the level of other financial obligations may affect capacity to repay and will be taken into account in the detailed programme development after further consultation, modeling and analysis.