

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 30 October 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(105) Output 1.1 Migration and Temporary Entry

Senator Carr (L&CA written) asked:

QON 33

1. DIMA claims to conduct compliance site visits to 25 per cent of 457 visa employer sponsors' worksites annually. Can you confirm that, according to the latest Annual Report, the percentage visited in 2004-05 was only 22% and in 2005-06 just 18%?
2. Is this downward trend going to continue?
3. If not, what steps have you taken, or will you take, to reverse it?

Answer:

1. Yes.
2. Site visits are being conducted on a more targeted basis commensurate with the need to maintain the integrity of the program and with greater reliance on referral of matters to relevant Commonwealth state agencies. An additional 27 ASL have recently been allocated to DIMA to increase monitoring of sponsors including making site visits and conducting investigations.
3. See answer to Question 2.