

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 30 October 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(125) Output 1.1: Migration and Temporary Entry

Senator Carr asked:

You say that there is some connection – you call it a “reference” – between Average Weekly ordinary-Time Earnings (AWOTE) and the MSL. Do you mean by this that the undiscounted MSL is equal to AWOTE?
If not, what do you mean?

Answer:

No. The minimum salary level is based on advice from the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations using the appropriate salary indexes from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. These salary indexes, which indicate average weekly earnings, are calculated according to full-time adult ordinary time earnings.