

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 30 October 2006**

**IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**

### **(127) Output 1.1 Migration and Temporary Entry**

Senator Carr (L&CA written) asked:

1. Whose responsibility is it to enforce the application of the MSL? Which Department?
2. Does DEWR calculate the MSL, and then DIMA enforce its application, or does the power of DEWR extend further than simply supplying you with an updated calculated amount each year?
3. If so, what power does DEWR have in this regard, and under what legislation does it obtain this power?

*Answer:*

1. DIMA is responsible in ensuring that a business sponsor meets the applicable minimum salary level (MSL).
2. The standard MSL is determined in consultation with DEWR on the basis of average weekly earnings data collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.
3. OWS is responsible for enforcing all matters relating to the Workplace Relations Act, including payment according to relevant industrial instruments.