

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

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

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

### **(135) Output 1.1: Migration and Temporary Entry**

Senator Carr asked:

The Minister for Workplace relations has announced that offshore skill assessment centres will be set up and run by Australian companies.

1. Will they be used to screen and test 457 visa applicants?
2. What other purpose will they be used for?

*Answer:*

1. The option of testing 457 visa applicants using the offshore skill assessment centres is still under consideration.
2. The assessment centres will test the skills of certain tradespersons seeking to migrate under the skilled stream of the migration programme.