

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 30 October 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(150) Output 1.1 Migration and Temporary Entry

Senator Ludwig (L&CA written) asked:

How many of the 65.2% of employers who were audited for visa compliance were reported for possible breach of visa conditions? How many were in breach of DIMA minimum salary levels and conditions?

Answer:

DIMA's monitoring process requires employers to submit answers to a range of questions, including questions relating to salaries paid. Where as a result of this process issues arise and for higher risk employers DIMA then conducts site visits. Some 1790 employers were site visited in 2005-2006. If as a result of the site visit, concerns remain, more intensive investigations take place.

Of the 12 employers sanctioned in the period July 2005 to October 2006 eight companies were in breach because of underpayment of wages (either the MSL or the relevant industrial instrument).