QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 30 October 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(60) Output 1.1: Migration and Temporary Entry

Senator Crossin (L&CA 72) asked:

What monitoring did you do or conduct prior to approving the Aprint to sponsor the 457 visa?

Answer:

Aprint first applied for status as a Subclass 457 Standard Business Sponsor in May 2004. Their application was assessed and found to meet the *Migration Regulations* 1994. Aprint were approved as a sponsor on 22 June 2004 with a nomination ceiling of four positions, of which they filled one with a Subclass 457 visa holder. Aprint were monitored in May 2005 and that monitoring was assessed as satisfactory on 6 June 2005.

Aprint lodged a further application for sponsorship, which was approved on 5 August 2005, with a nomination ceiling of three positions. All three positions have been filled by Subclass 457 visa holders.

Aprint were approved for a further sponsorship on 19 May 2006, with a nomination ceiling of two positions. In their application for sponsorship, Aprint provided a letter of support from their accountant, a tax return and financial statements in support of their financial capacity to meet their sponsorship undertakings. Aprint identified inhouse mentoring/development programme and external training provided to staff by equipment manufacturers in support of their commitment to training Australians. With prior satisfactory monitoring deemed satisfactory, repeat monitoring was not considered to be warranted prior to decision on the application for sponsorship. On 1 August 2006, Aprint was flagged for early monitoring of their sponsorship.