

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 30 October 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(9) Output: Internal Product

Senator Ludwig asked:

With regard to the preparation of Possible Parliament Questions briefs or other such documents intended to brief Minister's on an issue specifically for Question Time, could the department/agency provide:

1. The number of such briefs prepared in each of the last three financial years (2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06).
2. The number of staff who are responsible for coordinating such briefs and the salary level they are engaged at.
3. The name of internal unit/team that those staff belong to and a description of its other responsibilities.
4. The total budget associated with the unit/team referred to in response to part 3.

Answer:

1. 2003-04: 501 2004-05: 744 2005-06: 988
2. A dedicated officer at the APS6 Level is coordinating (receiving, indexing, forwarding) the Possible Minister's Questions. At times the officer is assisted by an officer at the APS4 Level.
3. Parliamentary Coordination Section. The Section's other main responsibilities are the coordination of parliamentary-related activities and parliamentary committee matters. They include the coordination of responses:
 - arising from questions on notice asked at Senate Estimates hearings,
 - to parliamentary questions, and
 - to Parliamentary Committee reports and inquiries.The Section also is responsible for departmental staff who are allocated to the Minister's and Parliamentary Secretary's office.
4. Allocation for 2006-07: \$ 450,000