

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 30 October 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(98) Output 1.1 Migration and Temporary Entry

Senator Conroy (L&CA written) asked:

1. What percentage of site visits to employers of 457 visa holders in the year to date have resulted in employers being referred to the department for a 'possible breach' of their sponsorship undertakings?
2. What percentage of site visits to employers of 457 visa holders in the 2004-05 financial year resulted in employers being referred to the department for a 'possible breach' of their sponsorship undertakings? What percentage resulted in actual breaches being found?
3. What percentage of site visits to employers of 457 visa holders in the 2003-04 financial year resulted in employers being referred to the department for a 'possible breach' of their sponsorship undertakings? What percentage resulted in actual breaches being found?
4. What percentage of site visits to employers of 457 visa holders in the 2002-03 financial year resulted in employers being referred to the department for a 'possible breach' of their sponsorship undertakings? What percentage resulted in actual breaches being found?

Answer:

1. Site visits to employers of 457 visa holders are conducted once monitoring has begun. Monitoring may be initiated through routine or targeted means.
2. In financial year 2006/07 to 30 November 2006 DIMA's own monitoring, site visits and referrals practices have identified 52 sponsors for possible breach of the undertakings.

Approximately 10% of these have identified breaches, whilst approximately 80% continue to be investigated.
2. 3. & 4. The data required to produce these statistics for these periods is not readily available and would involve an unacceptable diversion of resources to obtain.