

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(184) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration**

Senator Cash asked:

What consideration is being given to requiring DIAC to accept visa applications from either individuals or Registered Migration Agents only?

*Answer:*

The Department accepts all applications presented to it, regardless of who lodges the application. This is consistent with the Department's position that the lodgement of an application is best categorised as clerical or administrative help rather than 'immigration assistance' as defined by s276 of the *Migration Act 1958*.

There are no plans currently under consideration to alter this approach.