

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(36) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Cash (L&CA 42) asked:

In relation to 410 visa holders becoming permanent residents, when was the Australian Government Actuary analysis of the cost and benefit aspects of this policy option commissioned?

Answer:

The Australian Government Actuary (AGA) was approached late in 2007 about the possibility of developing a model of the potential direct costs to the Commonwealth of granting permanent residence to holders of the Retirement (Subclass 410) visa as an adjunct to the Calculation of the Contributory Parent Visa Composite Index (CPVCI) for 2007-08.

This work commenced in January 2008, however, a decision was later taken to produce separate reports regarding the CPVCI and the Retirement visa. As a result, a separate contract for the outstanding Retirement visa work was entered into in July 2008. It was initially anticipated that this work would be completed by December 2009, however, an extension to 30 June 2010 was later arranged to facilitate discussions with the British Expat Retirees In Australia (BERIA), consideration of their views and incorporation of any amendments arising as a result.

As the AGA has recently been asked to update the analysis and associated report to incorporate data as at 30 June 2010 a further extension to December 2010 is anticipated.