

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(443) Program Internal Product

Senator Barnett asked:

- (1) The 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook detailed the establishment of Commonwealth Property Management Framework. How has this applied to your department and portfolio agencies?
- (2) Has the implementation of this framework lead to savings in your portfolio? Please provide details.

Answer:

- (1) The Property Management Framework, comprising the Commonwealth Property Management Guidelines, Property Management Planning Guidance, the Australian Government Property Data Collection and the relevant Legislation and Policies that Interact with Commonwealth Property Management have all been implemented in the Department of Immigration and Citizenship and portfolio agencies. The framework includes the completion of a bi-annual occupational density survey.
- (2) The implementation of the framework has not provided the portfolio with immediate savings. The framework has enabled the identification of areas where savings will be made as changes and improvements are implemented over time. The strategies used in accordance with the framework include:
 - closely monitoring the results of the bi-annual occupation density survey to ensure the portfolio is making the most efficient and effective use of the space it currently leases;
 - consolidation of accommodation, allowing for larger contiguous spaces to be made available for sub-lease; and
 - reassessing the portfolio's business needs before the end of any lease to ensure operational requirements are met may lead to a reduction in leased space over time.