

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE12/0029) PROGRAM – OMARA

Senator Cash (written) asked:

With reference to the tender for “Services for the design and development of an ethical framework and toolkit”- what was the reason that the Ethics toolkit was developed? Was research undertaken or evidence gathered to justify the development of the toolkit?

Answer:

This Ethics Toolkit was developed as a result of the Office of the MARA’s review and update of the learning outcomes of the continuing professional development activity entitled “Ethics and Professional Practice”. This is a topic that is one of the four mandatory continuing professional development activities agents have to undertake. Staff in the Professional Development section of the Office of the MARA also attended seminars where this activity was presented by different providers which revealed inconsistencies in the approach to the topic. The Ethics Toolkit project was undertaken to provide agents guidance on an ethical framework that they could use and to provide a standard text and training resource for continuing professional development providers upon which future activities could be based.