

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 November 2013**

**IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO**

**(SE13/0077) PROGRAMME – 1.1: Visa and Migration**

Senator Bilyk (Written) asked:

In previous Estimates hearings, when asked about the cost of a pathway to permanent residence the Department has cited the Australian Government Actuary's report for their estimate of the costs. However, the Department has also observed criticisms of the report and mentioned that it is just one source of information. What is the Department's estimate of the cost to the taxpayer of providing a pathway to permanent residence for Retirement Visa holders?

*Answer:*

The Department is not in a position to estimate the cost to the taxpayer of providing a pathway to permanent residence for Retirement Visa holders because it would impact principally on other portfolios.