

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 23 February 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE15/133) - 457 Visas - Programme 1.2 Visa and Citizenship (Administered)

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA) written:

How many employers has the Department approved as Standard Business Sponsors for the 457 visa program, as at 28 February 2015?

Of these, how many did the Department refer to the FWO to confirm that the sponsor applicant did not have a record of contravention of the Fair Work Act, and was not currently being investigated by the FWO for possible non-compliance with the FWA or subject to legal proceedings?

Answer:

The Department of Immigration and Border Protection approved 10,479 sponsors as Standard Business Sponsors for the 457 programme in the period 2014-15 to 28 February 2015.

The department is not able to report on the number of outcomes or referrals to the Fair Work Ombudsman to determine compliance with the Fair Work Act as this information is not recorded in the department's systems for reporting purposes and manually extracting this information would constitute an unreasonable diversion of resources.