

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 24 March 2017

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE17/279) - Applying for 457 Labour Agreement - Programme 2.3: Visas

Senator Pratt, Louise (L&CA) written:

Can you explain the process for applying to the Department for a 457 Labour Agreement? What requirement does the employer have to consult stakeholders? Are businesses required to advertise those jobs locally in Australia first and what requirements are set on advertising?

Answer:

A request will come in from a migration agent or an employer requesting a labour agreement.

The Department provides the requester with an information pack that includes:

- a business case proforma which must be completed to request a labour agreement;
- an information guide on labour agreements
(see: <http://www.border.gov.au/WorkinginAustralia/Documents/requesting-labour-agreement.pdf>)
- additional information on any existing industry template agreement where relevant; and
- a standard stakeholder letter template for employers to use when consulting with stakeholders about their agreement.

Before a labour agreement request will be considered, together with their completed business case proforma, employers must provide:

- the results of their stakeholder engagement activities; and
- a comprehensive report on their domestic recruitment attempts and why these have failed to produce suitable local candidates for the positions that they are seeking to fill via a labour agreement.