

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 OCTOBER 2014**

#### **IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO**

#### **(SE14/009) PROGRAMME –**

Senator Macdonald (L&CA 26) asked:

CHAIR: Mr Ingram, I understand that people applying for protection visas were, until recently, given a grant of \$200 for professional assistance. I think that is right; the minister might correct me if I am wrong. Has this cessation of public funding for migration agents meant any reduction in the number of those seeking registration or the number deregistering so to speak?

Mr Ingram: It has not manifested itself—

CHAIR: Before you answer, Minister, can I ask you that question? Is that a fact? Do you know?

Senator Cash: I would need to take that on notice.

*Answer:*

The Portfolio is not aware of a programme in which applicants for protection visas are provided a \$200 grant for the provision of professional assistance.

The Immigration Advice and Application Assistance Scheme (IAAAS) delivers protection claims assistance to some people living in the community, in hardship. This occurs under limited contractual arrangements and not as a specific grant per person. IAAAS assistance to illegal arrivals ceased with effect from 31 March 2014.