

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 OCTOBER 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE14/452) PROGRAMME – 2.1 and 2.2: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

- a. How many cases have been considered by the Minister for Immigration since May 2014?
- b. Under which power were these cases presented to the Minister?
- c. How many have been agreed to be considered?
- d. How many have not been agreed to consider?
- e. How many visas have been granted?
- f. Which visa classes have been granted?
- g. How many cases have been considered twice by the Minister with a different outcome on the second consideration?
- h. What is the average time for a request to be decided by the Minister or the Assistant Minister?
- i. What is the grant rate as a per cent of the cases being decided?

Answers:

a. Portfolio ministers were presented with a total of 18,937 requests to exercise intervention powers between 1 May 2014 and 28 November 2014. This data includes requests considered for the purposes of release from detention.

b. The following table outlines under which power these requests were presented to portfolio ministers:

Ministerial Intervention Power	Referred As	TOTAL
s195A	1st Stage Submission	1021
	2nd Stage Submission	857
s351	1st Stage Submission	266
	2nd Stage Submission	121
	Schedule	1098
s417	1st Stage Submission	109
	2nd Stage Submission	46
	Schedule	704
s46A	1st Stage Submission	7656
s91L	1st Stage Submission	7016
Other powers		43
TOTAL		18937

NOTE: The total number of requests referred does not equal the total number of decisions made in the following table as the request may not have been decided by the minister in the same time period.

c, d & e: The following table outlines the ministers' decisions over that period:

Ministerial Intervention Power	Ministers' decision	TOTAL
s195A	Consider Visa Grant / visa grant	1767
	Further information requested	21
	Not Considered	22
s351	Consider Visa Grant / visa grant	220
	Further information requested	40
	Not Considered	1292
s417	Consider Visa Grant / visa grant	39
	Further information requested	30
	Not Considered	856
s46A	Further information requested	3
	Intervened - Bar Lifted	8055
	Not Considered	4
s91L	Intervened - Bar Lifted	7724
Other powers	Consider Visa Grant	18
	Further information requested	2
	Not Considered	20
TOTAL		20113

NOTE: The total number of decisions made does not equal the total number of requests referred in the previous table as the request may not have been decided by the minister in the same time period.

f. The following table outlines the class of visa granted:

Visa Granted
020 (Bridging Visa Class B)
050 (Bridging Visa E (General))
070 (Bridging Visa R (Removal Pending))
151 (Former resident)
163 (State/Territory Sponsored Business Owner (Provisional))
401 (Temporary Work (Long Stay Activity))
449 (Humanitarian Stay (Temporary))
457 (Business (long stay))
485 (Skilled – Graduate)
489 (Skilled–Regional (Provisional))
573 (Higher education sector)
600 (Visitor)
602 (Medical Treatment)
786 (Temporary (Humanitarian Concern))

Note: This data includes visas granted for the purposes of release from detention.

g. The number of cases considered twice by the minister with a different outcome on the second consideration is not readily available. Compiling this data would require manual examination of the records that relate to thousands of cases and would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.

h. Over the period in question, the average time between referral to a portfolio minister and the finalisation of the request by the minister was 41.6 days.

i. For the period in question, of the 4288 requests under an intervention power where a visa grant is a possible outcome, 1972 or 46% resulted in a visa grant. This varies on the basis of the intervention power as shown in the table below:

Ministerial Intervention Power	Ministers' decisions	Visa grants	% resulted in visa grant
s195A	1811	1752	96.7%
s351	1552	177	11.4%
s417	925	73	4.6%