

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 17 October 2016

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE16/093) - Ashton Pty Ltd trading as Woodward Foods Australia - Programme 2.3: Visas

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA) written:

Is DIBP aware of the application by Ashton Pty Ltd trading as Woodward Foods Australia (Swan Hill) to enter into a Meat industry Labour agreement?

(a) What is the status of this application?

(b) When was it submitted?

(c) What consultation has been conducted and reviewed by the DIBP?

(d) What is the timeline for making a decision on this application?

(e) Has DIBP reviewed the training programs of applicant to ensure that re-training and progression of current employees is undertaken before an application is granted?

(f) Is there a shortage of skilled boners, slicers and slaughtermen in Victoria and NSW to justify the granting of this application?

Answer:

- (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) Dealings with Australian companies and the Department of Immigration and Border Protection are commercial-in-confidence and as such the Department cannot comment on questions (a), (b), (c) and (e).
- (d) The departmental standard for assessing a request for a labour agreement is three months.
- (f) DIBP consults with the Commonwealth Department of Employment in relation to each meat industry labour agreement request. Questions relating to skill shortages should be referred to the Commonwealth Department of Employment.