

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 FEBRUARY 2008

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(56) Output 1.1: Migration and Temporary Entry

Senator Ellison asked:

- (1) What remuneration will members of the 457 visa reference group receive?
- (2) When does the work of the 457 visa reference group officially commence?
- (3) What secretariat or administrative support will be provided to the 457 visa reference group? What is the estimated cost of this support?

Answer:

(1) The remuneration of the 457 visa reference group members has been determined with reference to standard Remuneration Tribunal Rates.

(2) The work of the 457 visa reference group officially commenced with its first meeting on Wednesday 27 February 2008 though members held a Teleconference on Friday 22 February 2008 to make arrangements for the first meeting.

(3) The secretariat for the group comprises one Assistant Secretary, one EL2 and one EL1 at DIAC for approximately two months. Estimated cost is of the order of \$40 000 - \$ 50 000. Further secretariat consultation involves other agencies, the estimated cost of this is minimal.