

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 FEBRUARY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE12/0211) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Cash asked:

What are the implementation phases of the Skills Select model?

Answer:

SkillSelect will be implemented on 1 July 2012. Incorporated into this change will be the introduction of the:

- SkillSelect web-based interface
- The introduction of new visa subclasses for the Employer Nominated Scheme and Regional Skilled Migration Scheme, Business Skills program and General Skilled Migration program, created under the Department's commitment to visa simplification and deregulation.
- Commencement of eLodgement for Employer Nominated Scheme and Regional Skilled Migration Scheme and the Business Skills program

In accordance with the transitional arrangements for General Skilled Migration announced on 8 February 2010, the closure of the on-shore visas will take effect on 31 December 2012.