

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 FEBRUARY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE12/0222) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Cash asked:

What type of local authorities will be eligible to sign up to a Regional Migration Agreement (RMA)?

Answer:

There are no proposed limitations on who can negotiate a Regional Migration Agreement on behalf of a region. Some possibilities include local councils, state or territory governments, regional development associations or business peak bodies.

The regional stakeholder, or group of stakeholders, will need to be able to represent businesses in the region. They will also need to be able to make a compelling case for the need for a RMA in the region.

We acknowledge state and territory governments will play an important role even where they are not the stakeholder negotiating the RMA.