

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0176) PROGRAM – OMARA

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

In the CEO's review on page 3 of the annual report, it states "Registered migration agents were closely engaged in the development of both the [ethical] framework and the toolkit". Who was consulted? How many were consulted? How were they selected to be part of the consultation? Did they apply or were they approached? Are they experts in ethics? How many of them are lawyers? How many of them are affiliated with Fragomen?

Answer:

Who was consulted? How many were consulted?

All registered migration agents, approved providers of continuing professional development (CPD) activities, tertiary institutions delivering the prescribed course, members of the Advisory Board, the Migration Institute of Australia, the Migration Alliance and the Law Council of Australia were consulted.

How were they selected to be part of the consultation? Did they apply or were they approached?

This was a public consultation. All registered migration agents were invited to comment. To ensure all agents were made aware of the publication, the Authority communicated directly, via email, with each registered agent drawing their attention to the draft *Toolkit* and inviting feedback on the contents of the *Toolkit*.

Are they experts in ethics?

The Office does not have data on how many registered migration agents are experts in ethics. However included in this group were registered migration agents who deliver CPD activities on "Ethics and Professional Practice"

How many of them are lawyers?

Approximately a third of the total number of registered migration agents hold an Australian legal practicing certificate.

How many of them are affiliated with Fragomen?

Approximately 2.5% of registered migration agents who were invited to provide comment on the draft toolkit are affiliated with Fragomen.