

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES - 25 FEBRUARY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE14/221) PROGRAMME – 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

In the 6 months to 31 December 2014, total 457 visa applications lodged in all industries has declined by 24% compared to the same period in 2013, but in Accommodation and Food services the number of 457 visa applications lodged has actually increased by 10.5%.

Likewise, the top 2 occupations for 457 visa applications lodged are now Cooks and Cafe or Restaurant manager – together accounting for 11.1% of all 457 visa applications lodged (table 1.18, DIBP report). Does the Department have any concerns about these trends, and if so, what is it doing to address them?

Answer:

The department does not have any concerns about the number of 457 visa applications lodged by or granted to cooks or café and restaurant managers at this time.