

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES - 25 FEBRUARY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE14/273) PROGRAMME – 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

1. Approximately what percentage of cases heard by the RRT relate to complementary protection since 19 November 2013?
2. What is the overturn rate of these applications?
3. What is the affirmation rate of these applications?
4. What is the remittance rate of these applications?
5. If no cases have been heard by the RRT in regards to complementary protection, why not?

Answer:

All answers relate to RRT decisions made in the period 19 November 2013 to 25 February 2014.

1. All protection visa applicants are assessed against the complementary protection criteria if they are assessed as not being a refugee.
2. In less than one per cent of protection visa cases the RRT determined that the visa applicant met the complementary protection criteria.
3. The RRT affirmed the primary decision to refuse to grant a protection visa in 75 per cent of the decisions reviewed. In so doing, the RRT would have found that the applicant was (a) not a refugee and (b) did not meet the complementary protection criteria. Another five per cent of reviews completed during this period were outside the RRT's jurisdiction.
4. If the RRT determines that the visa applicant is a refugee or meets the complementary protection criteria, the RRT remits the application for the visa to the department for reconsideration. The department then considers any remaining matters, including character and security checks. Overall, 20 per cent of all protection visa cases decided were remitted to the department, almost all on the basis that the visa applicant was a refugee. Less than one per cent of cases were remitted on the basis that the complementary protection criteria were met.
5. All protection visa applicants are assessed against the complementary protection criteria if they are assessed as not being a refugee.