

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES - 25 FEBRUARY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE14/441) PROGRAMME – Internal Product

Senator Ludwig (Written) asked:

Since the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013, how many new reviews (defined as review, inter-departmental group, inquiry, internal review or similar activity) have been commenced? Please list them including:

- a. the date they were ordered
- b. the date they commenced
- c. the minister responsible
- d. the department responsible
- e. the nature of the review
- f. their terms of reference
- g. the scope of the review
- h. Whom is conducting the review
- i. the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review
- j. the expected report date
- k. the budgeted, projected or expected costs
- l. If the report will be tabled in parliament or made public

Answer:

Review of the Australian Citizenship Ceremonies Code

- a) 26 November 2013
- b) 9 December 2013
- c) Minister for Immigration and Border Protection
- d) Department of Immigration and Border Protection
- e) A consultative review to gain stakeholder feedback on the Australian Citizenship Ceremonies Code
- f) The content of the Code and the guidance and assistance it provides to stakeholders
- g) The content of the Australian Citizenship Ceremonies Code
- h) Department of Immigration and Border Protection on behalf of the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection
- i) 2 officers –1 EL2 and 1 EL1
- j) Mid-2014
- k) The review is being conducted within existing departmental resourcing
- l) The Australian Citizenship Ceremonies Code is a public resource and the revised version will be publicly released

Significant Investor Visa (SIV) programme

- a) Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection announcement made on 7 March 2014
- b) Review commenced on the Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection's announcement on 7 March 2014
- c) The Minister for Immigration and Border Protection and the Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection both have equal portfolio responsibility regarding the outcome of the review
- d) Department of Immigration and Border Protection
- e) To examine the current legislative settings pertaining to the SIV programme
- f) The Terms of Reference for the review are to:
 - i. assess whether the current policy settings are conducive to the effectiveness of the programme
 - ii. identify measures to enhance the benefits of the programme
 - iii. examine options to improve processing efficiency and service standards
 - iv. explore the feasibility of introducing a visa stream that does not require state/territory nomination and
 - v. consider options for the international promotion of the programme
- g) The review is outlined in the Terms of Reference
- h) Department of Immigration and Border Protection
- i) 2 x EL1, 1 x APS 6 (P/T), 1 x APS 5
- j) The preliminary report is expected in June 2014
- k) Costings are currently being completed
- l) The full report may be taken to Parliament by the Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection and a consolidated findings report be made publically available