

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 22 May 2006**

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

### **(19) Output: Internal Product**

Senator Nettle asked:

\$20.2 million was allocated to fund changes related to the Legislated amendments implemented last year. Provide a breakdown of these costs.

*Answer:*

\$20.2 million over four years was provided in the 2006-07 budget to implement the changes to the Migration Legislation which commenced in 2005-06. This funding is additional to the \$9.3 million provided for the 2005-06 financial year. The \$20.2 million is to facilitate:

- Residence Determination Arrangements (\$15.2m over four years) - incorporating payments made to non-government organisations to provide for families, who previously would have been kept within detention facilities, to be placed in accommodation within the community. This also includes staffing within DIMA to administer these arrangements.
- Ministerial Interventions (\$1.2m in 2006-07 only) - provides for additional resourcing to handle the increased workload generated by the new ministerial powers the changed legislation provides. The funding provided is transitional only.
- Ombudsman Reporting and Monitoring (\$0.8 million 2006-07 only) - provides for resources required for the initial identification and analysis of cases identified as requiring detailed investigation by the Ombudsman's office. The funding provided is transitional only and increased reporting requirements by the Department in respect of the Ombudsman beyond 2006-07 will be absorbed from within existing resources.
- Enhanced Visa Processing (\$3.0m over four years) - provides for the transitional workload generated by the decision to finalise all primary protection visa applications within three months.