

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 23 May 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(264) Output 2.1: Settlement Services

Senator Hurley (L&C 24) asked:

Can you give me a copy of any of the reports, or all of them?

Answer:

The first iteration of the six monthly IHSS Service Providers' reports will not be provided for the following reasons:

- The six monthly reports requested were submitted by IHSS service providers in February 2006 and cover only the first four months of the new contracts. As a consequence, there is limited data on client outcomes as very few clients had actually exited the programme at that stage. Service providers did not, therefore, have sufficient information to address key performance indicators.
- Service providers were not advised that their six monthly reports would be subject to public record. It would therefore be inappropriate to make them publicly available without the service providers' prior knowledge.

We have advised our Service Providers that future reports may be made public and afforded them the opportunity to consider privacy and commercial-in-confidence issues.