

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 23 May 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(267) Output 2.1: Settlement Services

Senator Hurley (L&C 27) asked:

Do we have the percentage of refugees and special humanitarian entrants that take up counselling?

Answer:

As indicated in the response to question 266, DIMA records show that to end May 2006, some 18% of humanitarian entrants, who have arrived in Australia since the commencement of the current contracts in October 2005, have accessed the Short-term Torture and Trauma Counselling service provided as part of the Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Strategy. As entrants generally do not access this service until a few months after arrival, and may access the service up to 12 months after arrival, the proportion accessing the service is expected to rise.

In 2004-05, 53.7% of entrants accessed the equivalent service.