

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 May 2007

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(26) Output: Internal Product

Senator Ludwig (L&CA 37-38) asked:

I am just seeking to clarify some of the information in the portfolio budget statements. On page 94, with respect to the land and building assets in the forward estimates, it shows that there is a fluctuation. I am referring to table 5.2 on pages 94 and 95. Why does it fluctuate between 2005-06 and 2007-08? Does that reflect increased value of the asset? Provide a detailed breakdown.

Answer:

In the Portfolio Budget Statements, the financial increase of the Land and Building assets estimates is \$205 million from 2006-07* to 2007-08. A breakdown of this is as follows:

(i)	Transfer of Christmas Island facility from Department of Finance:	\$211 million.
(ii)	Other capital works**:	\$ 19 million.
(iii)	Less: Depreciation:	\$-25 million.
	Total increase	\$205 million.

* It is assumed that the Senator is referring to 2006-07, not 2005-06, as no 2005-06 data is published in the Portfolio Budget Statements 2007-08 being referring to during Senate Estimates Committee.

** Other capital works include the long term detention strategy (announced as a budget measure in the 2004-05 Budget for 2007-08), general updating of fit-outs of offices that have been depreciated over time, and updating of Australian overseas missions to improve their security (announced as a budget measure in the 2004-05 Additional Estimates for 2007-08).