

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 28 MAY 2008

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(25) Output 1.2: Refugee and Humanitarian Entry and Stay

Senator Ellison (L&CA 53) asked:

In relation to questions on notice taken for 351s that we have just gone through, can we do the same for 417s.

(1) What are the current caseloads of those 417/501J visa categories? I will break it down: in the department's initial processing stage, if that makes sense; in the stage of further processing, if there is one; the cases at the minister's office; unassessed cases; and the total of that.

(2) From 7 December to date, how many have been sent to the minister's office and how many finalised?

(3) How many bridging visas have been granted while the request for intervention is being finalised?

Answer:

(1) For the 2007/08 Financial Year, as at 30 May 2008, there were:

- 1228 requests on hand with the Department either awaiting referral to the Minister or other finalisation
 - of those some 290 requests had undergone preliminary assessment but had yet to be formally assessed against the Ministerial Intervention Guidelines;
- 410 requests had been referred to the Minister and were undergoing further processing for resubmission; and
- 450 requests were at the Ministers Office.

The above represents a total of 2088 requests.

[Source: Monthly ICSE data extract for May 2008]

(2) Between 7 December 2007 and 6 June 2008, some 1810 requests for intervention under section 417 and 501J were sent to the Ministers office. In the same period some 1195 requests were finalised by the Minister.

[Source: Weekly ICSE data extract for 06 June 2008]

(3) For s417/s501J Intervention requests during the 2007/08 Financial Year, as at 06 June 2008, there were some 1419 Bridging Visas granted whilst the intervention request was being processed.

[Source: Weekly ICSE data extract for 06 June 2008]