

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 28 MAY 2008

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(46) Output 1.4: Compliance

Senator Ellison (L&CA 111) asked:

- 1) How many section 501 category (1) to (6) cases have been referred to the Minister during the period from December 2007 to date?
- 2) Could you also provide the figure of how many have been considered by the delegate?

Answer:

- 1) Between 1 December 2007 and 31 May 2008, the Minister considered one case for visa cancellation and one for visa refusal decision.

As advised in Question on Notice 22 (Additional Budget Estimates Hearing on 19 February 2008), the Minister has devolved responsibility for the majority of section 501 decisions to departmental delegates. This provides greater transparency and accountability and ensures that, where appropriate, decisions are subject to merits as well as judicial review.

- 2) Between 1 December 2007 and 31 May 2008, delegates of the Minister considered 565 people for visa cancellation and 328 for visa refusal under section 501. These resulted in 36 visa cancellations and 7 visa refusals.