

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 23 - 24 MAY 2011**

**IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

**(BE11/0080) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration**

Senator Brown (L&CA 28-30) asked:

Would you also look at the housing arrangements provided for those workers currently working for Ta Ann—I did mention this earlier—the community extension that those workers are involved in, and the length of stay that they will have in Tasmania as part of the arrangement with Ta Ann and the government?

*Answer:*

The Department is unable to comment on the housing arrangements or community involvement of subclass 457 visa holders.

Departmental records show that Ta Ann currently has 21 primary subclass 457 visa holders, with the majority of visas expiring in June 2012, and the last expiring in August 2013.

It should be noted that Ta Ann's sponsorship agreement has already expired which means that, although they may still employ their current visa holders, they may not sponsor any further workers without applying for approval to become a standard business sponsor again.