

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 23 MAY 2011**

#### **IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

#### **(BE11/0124) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration**

Senator Cash asked:

In relation to enhancing the 457 program, what is the estimated cost of hiring new staff – recruitment costs, salaries, relocation etc?

*Answer:*

As advised in the answer to Question 123, 14 of the 22 additional staff were transferred from other DIAC areas in Brisbane. Costs for recruiting the remaining staff were approximately \$5,200. No relocation costs were incurred.

The additional 1.5 staff for stakeholder engagement are yet to be appointed. They will come from within DIAC given the program area expertise that is required to do the job.

Additional set up costs include salaries and travel costs of trainers and mentors who are from interstate Centres of Excellence. They work closely with staff to ensure they are familiar with the legislation and policy and are proficient and confident at making well founded decisions.

Salaries over the next four years will come from the additional \$10 million funding provided in the Budget.