

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 27-28 May 2013**

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

#### **(BE13/0246) PROGRAM – 1.1: Visa and Migration**

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

What plans are there to increase electronic lodgement?

*Answer:*

All clients are able to apply online for the following visa types, with some only available following an invitation through the SkillSelect Expression of Interest online system:

- Business Innovation and Investment Program
- Temporary Work (Skilled) (e457)
- Permanent Employer Sponsored Program (ENS/RSMS)
- Points based Skilled Migration
- Maritime Crew Visa
- Superyacht Crew Visa
- Resident Return Visa

In addition, clients from eligible countries may apply online for the following visas:

- Visitors
- Working Holiday Program
- Students

Plans are underway to extend access to Visitor and Student applications from July 2013 and March 2014 respectively. Strategies to rollout these products to a greater range of clients are being worked through to support the commencement of the Visa Pricing Transformation pricing dimensions being implemented from 1 July 2013.

Family Migration applications do not currently have an option to apply through the internet. This is expected to change from November 2013 with the implementation of online lodgement for Partner visa applications, followed in a later release (March 2014) with online lodgement for Parents, Children and Other Family visa subclasses.