

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(196) Output 2.1: Settlement Services

Senator Hurley asked:

With regard to SGP and the report of the review of settlement services for migrants and humanitarian entrants 2003, p.249, on lack of experienced management committees in the organisation sector of community groups and based on the recommendation that the government should use trained and qualified staff

What is been done to improve the organisational skill of the recipients of SGP funding.

Answer:

To assist Migrant Resource Centres/Migrant Service Agencies and organisations funded under the Community Settlement Services Scheme manage and deliver settlement services, the Department has a National Training Strategy (NTS). The NTS comprises three modules, one of which is specifically designed for management committees.

The module for management committee members identifies the skills necessary to manage a community organisation, and covers issues such as the legal framework, roles and responsibilities, accountability, vision and leadership.

Similar training material for organisations and management committees will be available under the Settlement Grants Program (SGP).

Departmental Grants Managers work with recipients of SGP funding on an ongoing basis and assist them to develop and refine their original skills.

Further information in relation to training to organisations, including Management Committee, is provided in the response to Question 186.