

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 20 OCTOBER 2009

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(14) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Fierravanti-Wells (L&CA 50) asked:

In relation to the recent consultations on the MODL, what in general terms is the gist of the feedback that has been received? Provide copies of the discussion papers.

Answer:

Two Issues Papers were publicly released for comment, each attracting around 50 submissions from a range of interested stakeholders and individuals. The Department did not seek permission to publish submissions and has not done so, although a number of stakeholders have themselves made their submissions publicly available.

The first paper (Select Skills: Principles for a new Migration Occupations in Demand List) proposed a set of high-level principles for occupational targeting which were widely supported.

The second paper (Future Skills: Targeting High Value Skills through the General Skilled Migration Program) set out three options on a way forward, with stakeholders taking varying positions on their preferred option. Further work to develop and refine and assess the impact of different options has since been undertaken.

Copies of both papers are attached, and can also be downloaded from:

<http://www.immi.gov.au/skilled/general-skilled-migration/modl-review/>