

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing: 19 October 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(194) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Cash asked:

What is the average time taken to process a Working Holiday Maker Visa? How does this compare with 12 months ago?

Answer:

The service standard for first Working Holiday (subclass 417) visa processing is that 75% are finalised within 6 days of lodgement. The service standard for second (extensions) Working Holiday (subclass 417) visa processing is that 75% are finalised within 21 days of lodgement.

To 30 September 2010, 82.35% of visa applications were being finalised within the 6 and 21 day timeframes. In comparison, the finalisation rate to 30 September 2009 was 80.98%.