

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(221) Program: Internal Product

Senator Cash asked:

- (1) Please provide an exact figure for how many visa applications were cancelled as a consequence of the Minister's announcement of 8 February 2010?
- (2) What was the cost to the budget?
- (3) What was the total value of the visa application fees refunded? .

Answer:

- (1) As at 24 December 2010, the number of finalised cancelled visa applications was 1,986. The Department continues to receive information necessary to continue to process visa cancellations and to refunding visa application fees.
- (2) There is a nil cost to the budget. The estimated cost associated with the cancellation of visa applications was fully offset by savings measures in the 2010-11 Budget.
- (3) As at 24 December 2010, the total value of visa application fees refunded was \$4.017 million.