

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 17 OCTOBER 2011

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### (SE11/0179) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Cash asked:

In respect of each concession request, please detail the terms of the requested concessions, if the concession has been agreed to, if the concession has not been agreed to, why the concession has not been agreed to?

*Answer:*

This question appears to be in relation to the labour agreement program and, given that no Enterprise Migration Agreements (EMA) have been established as at 1 December 2011, it is answered on this basis.

Each labour agreement request is considered on its own merits with the total business case informing the decision.

The most regularly requested concessions are to the skill level and English language competency requirements. Although a small number of employers have requested a concession to the threshold salary requirements (i.e. below the Temporary Skilled Migration Income Threshold), to date no such request has been approved.

A concession to skill level is defined as a request for a labour agreement to include an occupation which requires a qualification below an AQF Certificate IV. Requests for a concession to skill level have been received from employers in the mining, manufacturing, construction, agricultural, fishing, fast food, insurance, ski, tourism and retail industries.

A concession to the English language proficiency level is defined as a request for workers to have competencies less than IELTS 5. Employers in the mining, manufacturing, construction, agricultural, fishing, ski, meat, tourism and retail industries have requested these concessions. Generally, where an English concession is approved, the employer is required to implement certain risk mitigation measures.

The table below identifies the concessions to clients by industry and occupation for labour agreements approved (but not necessarily executed or received) in the period 1 November 2010 to 31 October 2011.

<b>Client</b>	<b>Industry</b>	<b>English concession request</b>	<b>Occupation and skill level concession request</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
1.	Agriculture	No concession requested	Animal Attendant Skill level 3 (Cert III/IV)	Approved – strong business case for access to specialised semi-skilled labour. Workers required to have substantial work experience.
2.	Construction	No concession requested	Scaffolder AQFIII and 3 years experience	Approved - strong business case for access to specialised semi-skilled labour.
3.	Construction	No concession requested	Scaffolder AQFIII and 3 years experience	Approved - strong business case for access to specialised semi-skilled labour.
4.	Construction	No concession requested	Industrial Spraypainters AQFII & 3 years experience. Scaffolders 5 years experience inc. 3 years advanced experience	Approved - strong business case for access to specialised semi-skilled labour.
5.	Construction	No concession requested	Processing Machine Operator	Approved - strong business case for access to specialised semi-skilled labour.
6.	Construction	No concession requested	Cryogenic Ladders – 3-6 years experience. Product Examiners – appropriate degree or 3 years experience inc. 2 years in quality assurance or control.	Approved - strong business case for access to specialised semi-skilled labour.
7.	Fast Food	No concession requested	Retail Supervisor Skill level 4 (Cert II/III)	Approved – strong business case for access to semi-skilled labour. Workers required to have substantial work experience.
8.	Fast Food	No concession requested	Retail Supervisor Skill level 4 (Cert II/III)	Approved – strong business case for access to semi-skilled labour. Workers required to have substantial work experience.
9.	Fast Food	No concession requested	Retail Supervisor Skill level 4 (Cert II/III)	Approved – strong business case for access to semi-skilled labour. Workers required to have substantial work experience.
10.	Fishing	IELTS 4.0 - 4.5	Deck/Fishing Hands Skill level 4 (Cert II/III)	Approved – strong business case for access to semi-skilled labour. Workers required to have substantial work experience. IELTS 4.5 approved with employer implementation of risk mitigation measures.

<b>Client</b>	<b>Industry</b>	<b>English concession requested</b>	<b>Occupation and skill level</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
11.	Fishing	IELTS 4.0 - 4.5	Deck/Fishing Hands Skill level 4 (Cert II/III)	Approved – strong business case for access to semi-skilled labour. Workers required to have substantial work experience. IELTS 4.5 approved with employer implementation of risk mitigation measures.
12.	Fishing	IELTS 4.0 - 4.5	Deck/Fishing Hands Skill level 4 (Cert II/III)	Approved – strong business case for access to semi-skilled labour. Workers required to have substantial work experience. IELTS 4.5 approved with employer implementation of risk mitigation measures.
13.	Fishing	IELTS 4.0 - 4.5	Deck/Fishing Hands Skill level 4 (Cert II/III)	Approved – strong business case for access to semi-skilled labour. Workers required to have substantial work experience. IELTS 4.5 approved with employer implementation of risk mitigation measures.
14.	Health Care and Social Assistance	No concession requested	Dental Assistant, Skill level 4 (Cert II/III)	Approved – strong business case for access to semi-skilled labour. Workers required to have substantial work experience.
15.	Health Care and Social Assistance	IELTS 4.0	Religious Assistant Skill level 4 (Cert II/III)	No concession approved for permanent entry. Temporary entrants approved with lower IELTS: must be able to meet IELST 4.0 within 9 months of entry. Reporting requirements if IELTS 4.0 not met. Substantial work experience required.
16.	Insurance	No concession requested	Insurance Investigator Skill level 3 (Cert III/IV)	Workers required to have substantial work experience.
17.	Manufacturing	No concession requested	Plant Operator Skill level 4 (Cert II/III)	Workers required to have substantial work experience.
18.	Manufacturing	requested less than IELTS 5 – not specified	Dairy Products Maker Skill level 5 (Cert I)	IELTS 4.5 approved with employer implementation of risk mitigation measures. Workers required to have substantial work experience.

<b>Client</b>	<b>Industry</b>	<b>English concession requested</b>	<b>Occupation and skill level</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
19.	Manufacturing	IELTS 5 average	AQFIII and/or 3 years experience	Approved - strong business case for access to specialised semi-skilled labour.
20.	Manufacturing	IELTS 4.5 for current onshore staff only	Machine operator AQFIII and/or 3 years experience	Approved - strong business case for access to specialised semi-skilled labour.
21.	Meat	Concessions requested during template negotiation IELTS 3 – 4.5.	Skilled meat worker (AQF Certificate III; and 3 years experience)	Skills concession approved - strong business case for access to the meat industry template. English concession not approved – not available under the meat template.
22.	Meat	Concessions requested during template negotiation IELTS 3 – 4.5.	Skilled meat worker (AQF Certificate III; and 3 years experience)	Skills concession approved - strong business case for access to the meat industry template. English concession not approved – not available under the meat template.
23.	Meat	Concessions requested during template negotiation IELTS 3 – 4.5.	Skilled meat worker (AQF Certificate III; and 3 years experience)	Skills concession approved - strong business case for access to the meat industry template. English concession not approved – not available under the meat template.
24.	Meat	Concessions requested during template negotiation IELTS 3 – 4.5.	Skilled meat worker (AQF Certificate III; and 3 years experience)	Skills concession approved - strong business case for access to the meat industry template. English concession not approved – not available under the meat template.
25.	Meat	Concessions requested during template negotiation IELTS 3 – 4.5.	Skilled meat worker (AQF Certificate III; and 3 years experience)	Skills concession approved - strong business case for access to the meat industry template. English concession not approved – not available under the meat template.
26.	Meat	Concessions requested during template negotiation IELTS 3 – 4.5.	Skilled meat worker (AQF Certificate III; and 3 years experience)	Skills concession approved - strong business case for access to the meat industry template. English concession not approved – not available under the meat template.
27.	Meat	Concessions requested during template negotiation IELTS 3 – 4.5.	Skilled meat worker (AQF Certificate III; and 3 years experience)	Skills concession approved - strong business case for access to the meat industry template. English concession not approved – not available under the meat template.

<b>Client</b>	<b>Industry</b>	<b>English concession requested</b>	<b>Occupation and skill level</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
<b>28.</b>	Meat	Concessions requested during template negotiation IELTS 3 – 4.5.	Skilled meat worker (AQF Certificate III; and 3 years experience)	Skills concession approved - strong business case for access to the meat industry template. English concession not approved – not available under the meat template.
<b>29.</b>	Meat	Concessions requested during template negotiation IELTS 3 – 4.5.	Skilled meat worker (AQF Certificate III; and 3 years experience)	Skills concession approved - strong business case for access to the meat industry template. English concession not approved – not available under the meat template.
<b>30.</b>	Meat	Concessions requested during template negotiation IELTS 3 – 4.5.	Skilled meat worker (AQF Certificate III; and 3 years experience)	Skills concession approved - strong business case for access to the meat industry template. English concession not approved – not available under the meat template.
<b>31.</b>	Mining	No concession requested	Structural Steel Erector; Steel Fixer; Scaffolder; Crane, Hoist or Lift Operator; and Construction Rigger  AQF Certificate III or higher; or three years relevant experience.	Approved - strong business case for access to specialised semi-skilled labour.
<b>32.</b>	Mining	IELTS 4.5 for current onshore staff only	AQFIII and 3 years relevant experience	Approved - strong business case for access to specialised semi-skilled labour.
<b>33.</b>	Mining	No concession requested	Industrial Spraypainter Welder (first class) Fitter (general) Metal Machinist (first class) Metal Fabricator Electrician Construction Rigger Scaffolder  AQFIII and 3 years relevant experience.	Approved - strong business case for access to specialised semi-skilled labour.

<b>Client</b>	<b>Industry</b>	<b>English concession requested</b>	<b>Occupation and skill level</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
34.	Public Administration and Safety	No concession requested	Custodial Officer Skill level 4 (Cert II/III)	Workers required to have substantial work experience.
35.	Retail Trade	IELTS 4.0 - 4.5	Store Person Skill level 4 (Cert II/III)	IELTS 4.5 approved with employer implementation of risk mitigation measures Workers required to have substantial work experience.
36.	Snowsports	English waiver requested	Skill level 4 (Cert II/III) snowsports occupation.	English waiver approved contingent on reduced OH&S risk. Workers required to have substantial work experience. Specialised occupation/seasonal work.
37.	Snowsports	English waiver requested	Skill level 4 (Cert II/III) snowsports occupation.	English waiver approved contingent on reduced OH&S risk. Workers required to have substantial work experience. Specialised occupation/seasonal work.
38.	Transport	No concession requested	Locomotive Driver Skill level 4 (Cert II/III)	Workers required to have substantial work experience.
39.	Transport	No concession requested	Locomotive Driver Skill level 4 (Cert II/III)	Workers required to have substantial work experience.
40.	Transport	No concession requested	Locomotive Driver Skill level 4 (Cert II/III)	Workers required to have substantial work experience.