

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### (SE12/0030) PROGRAM – OMARA

Senator Cash (written) asked:

Was the tender for “Services for the design and development of an ethical framework and toolkit” an open or select tender? Please outline the difference between an open tender and a select tender, and the circumstances in which each tender would be used?

*Answer:*

This tender was an open tender.

The Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines provide the following explanation (note that since 1 July 2012 this was replaced by Commonwealth Procurement Rules).

#### Open Tendering

8.14 An open tender process involves publishing a request for tender and receiving all submissions delivered by the deadline.

#### Select Tendering

8.20 A select tender process involves issuing an invitation to tender to those potential suppliers selected in accordance with the procedures outlined below.

8.21 When using a select tender process agencies are required to ensure that the process is non-discriminatory.

8.22 Three methods are permitted for conducting a select tender process. In the first two, an initial open approach to the market must be, or have been, undertaken to identify potential suppliers eligible and interested in participating in the select tender process. Agencies may conduct a select tender process from:

- a. a multi-use list;
- b. a list of potential suppliers that have responded to a request for expressions of interest; or
- c. a list of all potential suppliers that have been granted a specific licence or comply with a legal requirement, where the licence or compliance with the legal requirement is essential to the conduct of the procurement.