

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 November 2013

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE13/0401) PROGRAMME – 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Moore (Written) asked:

Have you received queries or concerns from Local Governments/Councils, or other host organisations, regarding the costs of Citizenship ceremonies?

- If so:
 - o How many queries or concerns were raised in the last twelve months?
 - o How does this compare to previous years in terms of the number of concerns or queries raised?
 - o How were the queries or concerns resolved?

Answer:

There have been no formal enquiries regarding funding by way of written correspondence to the Minister responsible for Australian citizenship matters in the last 12 months.

The Department liaises regularly with councils regarding the hosting of Australian citizenship ceremonies where a number of items are discussed as a matter of course. The provision of gifts, refreshment and entertainment is at the discretion of the council.