

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIVE SERVICES — VISA PROCESSING SERVICES

609. Hon MATT BENSON-LIDHOLM to the minister representing the Minister for Corrective Services:

I refer to a tender contract for the Department of Corrective Services awarded to KPMG for \$216 000 for visa processing services.

- (1) What is the nature of the services to be undertaken under this contract?
- (2) Was a request made of the State Migration Centre, which is within the Small Business Development Corporation, to inquire of it whether it could perform these services on behalf of the department; and, if not, why not?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question. The Minister for Corrective Services advises as follows —

- (1) The contract is to process sponsorship and visa applications from overseas recruits and submit them to the Department of Immigration and Citizenship, and to provide immigration advice and support to both the Department of Corrective Services and potential employees.
- (2) No. The service was requested by public advertisement in *The West Australian* newspaper on Wednesday, 5 November 2008. The State Migration Centre did not submit an application.