

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

National e-Health Transition Authority (NeHTA)

Budget Estimates 2011-12, Supplementary Estimates

Question: 14

OUTCOME 10.2: e-Health

Topic: National E-Health Strategy

Senator Boyce asked:

The 2008 Deloitte National E-Health Strategy advocated an approach where the first thing ‘connected was Australia’s healthcare system (Connect and Communicate: 1-3 years) through standards-based health information transaction exchanges (such as E-Referrals, E-Discharge Summaries, diagnostic test orders and results), and once the healthcare sector was connected in an interoperable fashion, then further investment and pursuit of a Shared Electronic Healthcare Record should ensue leveraging this connected healthcare sector base (Deloitte, 2008, p.51).

Why then have DOHA and NEHTA deviated from this nationally agreed plan by COAG in pursuing with a substantial investment of \$467M over 2-years into a PCEHR, when the stated prerequisites as laid out by Deloitte have not been accomplished nor invested in to achieve the staged plan as outlined?

Answer:

This is a matter for the Government and Department of Health and Ageing.