Senate Community Affairs Committee: Questions on Notice Additional Estimates 2012

QON	Senator	Due date	Question	Date Receieved
No.				
1	BOYCE	29 March	Is there an available document which analyses and identifies issues related to the clinical safety of the PCEHR?	03/04/2012
			If so can NEHTA /DOHA confirm there are NO unmitigated risks?	
2	ВОҮСЕ	29 March	If there are no such documents does that mean key issues relating to clinical safety and the implementation processes are not resolved and not completed?	03/04/2012
3	BOYCE	29 March	What Australian content is part of the PCEHR deployment given that the National Infrastructure Partner contract requires at least 20% Australian content?	03/04/2012
4	ВОҮСЕ	29 March	Interoperability between health providers and consumers will improve healthcare and is ultimately the goal of the E-Health Reform. To achieve this ideal in health -as in other industries- the Government needs to provide infrastructure and standards. The National Health and Hospital Reform Commission Report specifically stated in recommendation #123 that Governments should not buy, build or design the E-Health system. When did government decide to ignore the NHHRCR recommendations and how was that decision made?	03/04/2012
5	ВОҮСЕ	29 March	Why has NEHTA set up \$1.00 companies to develop - and copy - existing working systems? Is that in line with the guidelines of the Auditor General?	03/04/2012
6	ВОҮСЕ	29 March	Was it one of these companies that was responsible for recent problems with "parasitic software"?	03/04/2012
7	ВОУСЕ	29 March	The previous Health Minister confirmed that the E-Health Reform would build on existing working solutions. Why then has \$20M been paid to the Wave One GP Division sites without any governance on how the money is spent?	03/04/2012
8	воусе	29 March	What was the original business case to justify granting the three lead E-Health sites, each valued in excess of \$4m, without any competitive tender process, and what are they expected to produce over and above what was acknowledged and accounted for in the Deloitte National E-Health Strategy (2008, p.18)?	03/04/2012
9	ВОҮСЕ	29 March	What governance and accountability measures are in place to support the proper spending and achievement of promised outcomes from the three lead E-Health sites?	03/04/2012
10	ВОҮСЕ	29 March	What exactly, in SMART metric terms, are the promised outcomes from the three lead E-Health sites to justify and measure their performance?	03/04/2012
11	ВОҮСЕ	29 March	The original Wave#2 PCEHR grants tender specified "ongoing sustainability" as a requirement for successful tender respondents.	03/04/2012

			For each of the successful x9 Wave#2 PCEHR tender bids receiving collectively approx. \$70M of tax payers funds:	
			How many have proposed sustainable funding models post June 30th?	
			What is the degree of confidence from DOHA & NEHTA that these funding models will be achieved?	
			What happens to the lead E-Health site if they are unable to sustainably operate post June 30th 2012?	
			Are there any penalties for securing and wasting tax payers funding if not able to operate sustainably post June 30th?	
12	BOYCE	29 March	For each of the successful 9 Wave2 PCEHR tender bids receiving collectively approx. \$70M of tax payers funds could you supply the following details?	03/04/2012
			Are all lead E-Health sites, including Wave 1 and Wave 2 sites, compliant with this set of grant funding criteria?	
			There are reports of four different versions of E-Discharge Summaries implemented in the lead E-Health sites, can this be confirmed and if confirmed, how was this permitted to happen?	
			Are there any penalties applicable to either the three lead Wave 1 E-Health sites or nine Wave 2 sites for not meeting the specified criteria for grant funding, and if so, how will the penalties be determined and/or administered?	
13	воусе	29 March	The Healthcare Identifier Service was built on NEHTA specifications, since it went live – how much additional money has had to be spent in order to make it functional? [This answer must include an accurate definition of what ever term is used to answer the question be that terms already used such as ,"live", "ticking	03/04/2012
14	ВОУСЕ	29 March	along", "finalised" or "completed'.] The 2008 Deloitte National E-Health Strategy advocated an approach where the	03/04/2012
			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	
1.5	DOVCE	20.14	accomplished nor invested in to achieve the staged plan as outlined?	02/04/2042
15	ВОҮСЕ	29 March	Time and again my office and I have asked NEHTA if they really have assessed	03/04/2012
			the risks associated with the PCEHR proposal. Time and again we receive assurances that a thorough assessment has been undertaken but we are never	
			provided fact or evidence to support such a claim. Please provide all evidence, of	
			all trials conducted by NEHTA in regard to the PCEHR connected to patient's	
			safety, security and privacy? Please provide the detail of those trials, their	
			outcomes and findings?	
16	ВОУСЕ	29 March	Has a business case/cost value analysis specifically of the PCEHR proposal been	03/04/2012
			undertaken (rather than generic analyses of e-health benefits) and what were the	
			findings from this work that would support the present PCEHR plans? If this	
			exists, we would like a copy?	
17	BOYCE	29 March	What has been put in place to ensure that clinical practitioners will actually use	03/04/2012
			the proposed PCEHR and ensure what is presently planned is successful?	
18	BOYCE	29 March	Are NEHTA and DoHA aware of the US Institute of Medicine Report entitled	03/04/2012
			"Health IT and Patient Safety: Building Safer Systems for Better Care?	
			If so have have NEUTA and DOUA argumed that the issues and angelficulty the	
			If so, how have NEHTA and DOHA ensured that the issues and specifically the risks of harm to patient care and safety have been fully addressed in the	
			completed architecture of the PCEHR?	
19	BOYCE	29 March	In relation to the suspension of several pilot eHealth sites in January 2012:	05/04/2012
	20102		211 101 101 101 101 101 101 101 101 101	00/01/2012
			How long did it take the National eHealth Transition Authority to identify the	
			range of software incompatibilities that led to the suspension? What is the	
			estimated cost of the suspension?	
			Were issues surrounding software compatibility explored at the time of the tender	
20	NA IZENIZIE	20.14	process?	02/04/2042
20	McKENZIE	29 March	Staffing	03/04/2012
			How many ongoing staff recruited this financial year to date? What classification	
			are these staff?	
			How many non ongoing positions exist or have been created this financial year to	

			date? What classification are these staff? This financial year to date, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?	
21	McKENZIE	29 March	Staffing How many ongoing staff left in the year 2010-11? What classification were these staff? How many non ongoing staff left in the year 2001-11? What classification were these staff?	03/04/2012
22	McKENZIE	29 March	Staffing Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.	03/04/2012
23	McKENZIE	29 March	Efficiency dividend How will the efficiency dividend applied in the 2011-12 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook be implemented in your agency/department? What percentage of your budget must be cut? Will any staff position be cut to meet the efficiency divided? If yes, provide details of where the positions are locate, the classification, whether the position is ongoing or not. Please list where and what spending has been reduced to meet the efficiency dividend.	03/04/2012

24	McKENZIE	29 March	Staffing Please list the SES positions have you in your department/agency in the years 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and financial year to date. Identify the different levels and how many are permanent positions.	03/04/2012
25	McKENZIE	29 March	Staffing How many graduates have been engaged this year? Where have they been placed in the department/agency? Were these empty positions or are they new positions? List what training will be provided, the name of the provider and the cost.	03/04/2012
26	McKENZIE	29 March	Government Advertising What was the total cost of all advertising for 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11? For each of those years, list whether the advertising is campaign or non-campaign and details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services. Did the Department of Finance and Deregulation provide any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item. Did the Advertising comply with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies? Provide the details for each advertising item. Provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services. What advertising – Campaign and Non-Campaign – and other communications	03/04/2012

			programs is the Department/Agency undertaking, or are planning to undertake?	
27	McKENZIE	29 March	Hospitality and Entertainment	03/04/2012
			What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.	
			For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.	
			What is the Department's entertainment spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.	
			For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.	
			What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.	
			For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.	
			What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.	
			For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.	
28	McKENZIE	29 March	Board Appointments	03/04/2012
			List all of the boards within this portfolio, including: board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members.	

31	McKENZIE	29 March	Community Cabinets What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet	03/04/2012
			How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests for this financial year to date?	
			How many FOI requests has the Department received for this financial year to date? How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted? Has the department failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding?	
			How many FOI requests did the Department receive for the financial year 2009-10 and 2010-11? For each financial year, how many requests were denied and how many were granted? Did the department fail to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding?	
			What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date?	
			What was the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for 2009-10 and 2010-11?	
			Has the Department/agency received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests?	
30	McKENZIE	29 March	Freedom of Information	03/04/2012
			Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?	
29	McKENZIE	29 March	Grants	03/04/2012
			Please detail any board appointments for this financial year to date.	
			What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?	

			meetings held this financial year to date?	
			How many Ministerial Staff travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? How many Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? List travel type, accommodate and any other expenses. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date?	
32	McKENZIE	29 March	Reviews	03/04/2012
			 For this financial year to date: How many Reviews are being undertaken? What reviews have concluded, and for those that are still ongoing, when will those reviews be concluded Which of these reviews has been provided to Government? When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed? What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews? What reviews are planned? When will each of these reviews be concluded? 	
33	McKENZIE	29 March	Consultancies How many consultancies were undertaken in 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10? How many consultancies have been undertaken this financial year to date? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and	03/04/2012

			method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.	
34	McKENZIE	29 March	Media Monitoring What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11? What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for this financial year to date? • Which agency or agencies provided these services? • What is the estimated budget to provide this same services for the year 2011-12? • What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for this financial year to date? • Which agency or agencies provided these services? • What is the estimated budget to provide this same services for the year 2011-12? • What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?	03/04/2012
35	McKENZIE	29 March	Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and useage of Youtube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since publication of the Australian Public Service Commission's Circular 2012/1: Revisions to the Commission's guidance on making public comment and participating online? If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issue. If no, please explain why not.	03/04/2012

36 McKENZIE 29 March G	Contractors	03/04/2012
	 Contractors For this financial year to date: Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details. Has the department/agency ever employed Shannon's Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon's Way? If yes, provide details. Has the department/agency ever employed John Utting & UMR Research Group in any capacity or is it considering employing John Utting & UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details. Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details. Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details. Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details. Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details. Has the department/agency ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details. Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, 	03/04/2012

37	McKENZIE	29 March	Discretionary Grants	03/04/2012
			Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for this financial year to date? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.	
			Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?	
38	McKENZIE	29 March	Commissioned Reports	03/04/2012
			How many reports were commissioned by the government in your portfolio in 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11?	
			 How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio this financial year to date? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level? What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports? 	
39	McKENZIE	29 March	For this financial year to date, has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e.within 30 days)? If not, why not, and what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached) • For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year? • Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?	03/04/2012

40	McKENZIE	29 March	Government stationery requirements	03/04/2012
			How much was spent by each department and agency on the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (i.e. paper, envelopes, with compliments slips) this financial year to date?	
41	McKENZIE	29 March	 Media Subscriptions Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels. What is the estimated cost for 2011-12? What is the cost for this financial year to date? Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to newspapers? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers. What is the estimated cost for 2011-12? What is the cost for this financial year to date? Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to magazines? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines. What is the estimated cost for 2011-12? What is the cost for this financial year to date? 	03/04/2012
42	McKENZIE	29 March	Travel Costs For the financial year to date, please detail all travel (itemised separately,) undertaken by your portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses. For the financial year to date, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for any Minister and Parliamentary staff that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff. For the financial year to date, please provide the same information (itemised	03/04/2012

			separately) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each department and agency within each portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses. Are employees taking the most direct route when travelling? If not, please explain why. Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the cost per employee. When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as their Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of the support staff travel.	
43	McKENZIE	29 March	Legal costs What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.	03/04/2012

44	McKENZIE	29 March	Education expenses For this financial year to date, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant. Also include the reason for the study.	03/04/2012
45	McKENZIE	29 March	Executive Coaching and Leadership Training In relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date: 1. Total spending on these services 2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification 3. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted 4. The names of all service providers engaged For each service purchased form a provider listed under (4), please provide: a) The name and nature of the service purchased b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based c) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification d) The total number of hours involved for all employees e) The total amount spent on the service f) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package) Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide: i. The location used ii. The number of employees who took part on each occasion iii. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part iv. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location	03/04/2012

46	McKENZIE	29 March	Media Training	03/04/2012
			In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date: 1. Total spending on these services 2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification 3. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted 4. The names of all service providers engaged For each service purchased form a provider listed under (4), please provide: a) The name and nature of the service purchased b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based c) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification d) The total number of hours involved for all employees e) The total amount spent on the service f) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package) Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide: i. The location used ii. The number of employees who took part on each occasion iii. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part iv. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location	
47	McKENZIE	29 March	Paid Parental Leave	03/04/2012
			Please list how many staff in each portfolio department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? For this financial year to date list which department/agency is providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff are in receipt of these payments.	
48	McKENZIE	29 March	Training for Portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries	03/04/2012

			For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for. For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for staff of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for. For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for designed to better suit the needs of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for, and how many employees attended and their classification.	
49	McKENZIE	29 March	Corporate Cars How cars are owned by each department and agency in your portfolio? Where is the car/s located? What is the car/s used for? What is the cost of each car for this financial year to date? How far did each car travel this financial year to date?	03/04/2012
50	McKENZIE	29 March	Taxi Costs How much did each department/agency spend on taxis in 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.	03/04/2012
51	McKENZIE	29 March	Credit Cards How many staff in each department and agency have a corporate credit card? What is their classification? What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misued?	03/04/2012

			How is corporate credit card use monitored?	
			What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered?	
			Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered? List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.	
			What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?	
52	McKENZIE	29 March	Provision of Equipment	03/04/2012
			Does the department/agency provide their Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices with any electronic equipment? If yes, provide details of what is provided, the cost and to who it is provided. What equipment is provided to department/agency staff? Please list what the equipment is, the cost, the classification of the staff receiving the equipment and	
			the reason why.	
53 Verbal QON	ВОҮСЕ		Senator BOYCE: In terms of the use of the standards to develop product to be used in the PCEHR, I am using really broad terms so that I do not inadvertently narrow my inquiry field because I do not know how broad my inquiry field really should be. Accenture and the wave 1 and wave 2 people have been using these bundles of specifications and standards that you have mentioned. What is the feedback on them? Has there been any evaluation of the use of them et cetera?	03/04/2012
54 Verbal QON	DI NATALE		Senator DI NATALE: On what basis were the sites chosen? What were some of the criteria that were used?	03/04/2012
55 Verbal QON	ВОҮСЕ		Senator BOYCE: I have a follow-up question, for the sake of the record. How many patient records do the wave 1 and wave 2 suppliers currently have or are dealing with?	03/04/2012
			Mr Fleming: I am not sure I fully understand the question.	
			Senator BOYCE: They are developing EHRs, whether they are PCEHRs or PEHRs, which perhaps is the difference, but how many records have they got?	