

# Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

## ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

### Digital Transformation Agency

**Topic:** COVID-19 Tracing Application

**Senator:** Rex Patrick

**Type of question:** Written, 28 April 2020

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 May 2020

#### Question(s):

1. Who does the Agency understand to be the lead authority for the app? Please indicate if this has changed over time, and if so, why?
2. What involvement has the Department (or its portfolio agencies) had in the design/development/procurement of the app?
3. Which Government Departments/Agency have provided the Agency with advice relating to the app?
4. What contracts has the Agency let in relation to the application (including development/data storage etc.)? For each contract:
  - a. When was the tender released?
  - b. What procurement method was used?
  - c. If a limited tender was used:
    - i. What was the reason for choosing a limited tender?
    - ii. What date was the tender issued?
    - iii. Which entities were invited to tender?
    - iv. How was clause 4.7 of the Commonwealth Procurement Rules assessed?
    - v. On what date were the tender responses received?
    - vi. Which officials were involved in the decision to award a tender – please provide a name if the official was a member of the Senior Executive Service.
    - vii. What date was the contract signed?
    - viii. What is the scope of work?
    - ix. What is the contract value?
    - x. What is the term of the contract?
  - d. Does the contract award accord with Agency's and Government principles as enshrined in DTA's Whole-of-government Hosting Strategy?"

#### Answer(s):

1. The Department of Health is the agency responsible for the COVIDSafe application. The Australian Cyber Security Centre, Australian Signals Directorate, Attorney-General's Department and the Digital Transformation Agency (DTA) provide specialist advice, skills and capability to the development of the application. The initial prototype of the application was completed by the Department of Home Affairs.
2. Since Monday the 6<sup>th</sup> of April 2020, the DTA has been responsible for the technical design and development of the application. The DTA has also conducted some procurement activities related to these two functions.
3. Please see response to Question 1.

4. Four contracts have been awarded to support the development and use of the COVIDSafe application.

**Ionize (Cyber Security Assessment Services)**

- a. An open tender was released on 20 April 2020.
- b. The tender was released via a panel (Digital Marketplace SON3413842).
- c. N/A
- d. N/A

**Shine Solutions Group Trust (Helpdesk Support)**

- a. An open tender was released on 23 April 2020.
- b. The tender was released via a panel (Digital Marketplace SON3413842).
- c. N/A
- d. N/A

**Boston Consulting Group**

- a. An open tender was released on 15 April 2020.
- b. The tender was released via a panel (Department of Finance Business Advisory Panel SON3305648).
- c. N/A
- d. N/A

**Amazon Web Services Australia Pty Ltd (AWS inc Shine as sub-contractor)**

- a. AWS was approached to provide a quote on 6 April 2020.
- b. The request was made via the AWS Whole-of-Government Arrangement.
- c. This represented a limited tender procurement method:
  - i. Due to genuine urgency and continuation of an existing agreement (Commonwealth Procurement Rules 10.3.b and 10.3.e) to align with the arrangements that were originally established by the Department of Home Affairs.
  - ii. As per above, AWS was approached to provide a quote on 6 April 2020.
  - iii. Amazon Web Services (AWS)
  - iv. Clause 4.7 of the CPR's (Broader benefits to the Australian Economy) does not apply to procurements from standing offers. However, it is important to note that the release of the COVIDSafe App will assist the Australian economy by reducing the isolation period and therefore allowing businesses to reopen.
  - v. The response was received on 17 April 2020.
  - vi. The officials involved in the decision to award the tender include:
    1. Peter Alexander, Chief Digital Officer (Delegate)
    2. David Donovan, CFO
    3. Anthony Warnock, Branch Head of Digital Infrastructure Service
  - vii. The contract was executed on 24 April 2020.
  - viii. AWS were contracted to deliver the following:
    1. AWS Platform Design and Build
    2. AWS Mobile Web App Build
    3. Administration of App Build
    4. Project Control
  - ix. The contract value is \$709,059.37 incl. GST.
  - x. The term of the contract is 24 April 2020 to 23 October 2020.
- d. The contract awarded is in accordance with Agency's and Government's principles as enshrined in DTA's Whole-of-Government Hosting Strategy. AWS solution is a robust, risk assessed solution with data sovereignty and supply chain integrity.