

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 15 February 2012

Question: E12-121

OUTCOME 10: Health System Capacity and Quality

Topic: EHEALTH

Written Question on Notice

Senator Boyce asked:

The previous Health Minister confirmed that the E-Health Reform would build on existing work solutions. Why then has \$20M been paid to the Wave One GP Division sites without any governance on how the money is spent?

Answer:

Existing ehealth work solutions developed by the National eHealth Transition Authority (NEHTA), such as specifications, standards, clinical terminologies, access security and compliance and conformance, provide the foundation for the development of the personally controlled electronic ehealth records (PCEHR) system and the work of the lead ehealth sites.

The Department of Health and Ageing has contracted NEHTA to manage the lead eHealth sites on behalf of the Department, via Tripartite Funding Agreements between the Department, NEHTA and the respective site. There are robust governance requirements in place providing oversight of agreed outcomes and funding expenditure. The PCEHR Program Control Group provides overarching scrutiny of the program at a Departmental level, while the Standing Council on Health (SCOH) oversees the whole of the PCEHR work program.