

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 15 February 2012

Question: E12-196

OUTCOME 10: Health System Capacity and Quality

Topic: EHEALTH

Written Question on Notice

Senator Boyce asked:

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, p18)?

Answer:

Following the release of the National E-Health Strategy and the outcome of an eHealth readiness assessment, the Department of Health and Ageing and the National eHealth Transition Authority (NEHTA) identified organisations that had a proven track record for successful delivery of eHealth projects involving strong clinical governance, population coverage and eHealth readiness. These organisations provided implementation plans, which were considered by both the NEHTA Board and the Department's Personally Controlled Electronic Health Records (PCEHR) Program Control Group, prior to being approved by the Minister for Health and Ageing.

Funding for the eHealth sites was provided to assist the development of solutions identified by the sites and to test and deploy software and eHealth capability prior to the introduction of the PCEHR system. A robust governance process, through the PCEHR Program Control Group, ensures that funding is linked to agreed deliverables.