

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000337

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: National Cancer Screening Register

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Watt, Murray

Question:

- a) What was the date that Telstra advised the Secretary that they had concerns about completing the project by May 1?
- b) When was the Minister's Office informed that there were concerns about completing the project by the deadline?
- c) Are there any penalties for Telstra for failing to be able to deliver the project on time?

Answer:

a) On 14 December 2016, Telstra Health advised Health that there was the possibility of a delay. On 4 January 2017, Telstra Health senior officials met with the Secretary and discussed issues with the delivery of the National Cancer Screening Register.

b) The Department provided a briefing to the Minister on 17 February 2017 that Telstra would not be able to deliver the project according to the agreed timeframes.

c) Health is yet to determine the type and extent of action that will be taken. The priority for Health and Telstra Health is to ensure that the new agreed delivery date of 1 December for the National Cancer Screening Register, to support the Renewal of Cervical Screening, is met.

Standard delay protection provisions exist in the Services Agreement to protect the Commonwealth.