

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 5-6 JUNE 2014 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: IT privacy and security of systems

Question reference number: HS 12

Senator: Cameron

Type of question: Hansard pages 129, 5 June 2014

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 25 July 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator CAMERON: This is the last question that maybe on notice you can provide some comment on. They indicate that on myGov, which is what Senator Smith and I have raised with you previously, the code is quite sound, with five minor findings. Maybe you can provide some more detail on those on notice, because it is very difficult to understand if you are not an IT specialist.

Senator Payne: I am with you there, Senator.

Senator CAMERON: I think we need to try and get it in lay terms if we could. On Medicare Express Plus, they say no major vulnerability is identified. So it is a mix of issues, but when ANAO raise them, my estimation of the ANAO is that they are a bit like me: they are very diplomatic in how they express things. So you can read a bit more into them than they actually say. I am always worried about that. Thanks for taking them on notice.

Answer:

The code review findings found the code was sound. Three minor good practice suggestions were listed, but none manifested as weaknesses. One finding related to details that would be updated as part of planned changes. The last related to functions internal to the department and pose no material risk. All were identified as low risk in the threat and risk assessment.