

## Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

### BUDGET ESTIMATES – 3 JUNE 2015 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### Department of Human Services

**Topic:** Welfare Payment Infrastructure Transformation – Tranche 1

**Question reference number:** HS 22

**Senator:** Cameron

**Type of question:** Hansard page 61

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 24 July 2015

**Number of pages:** 1

#### **Question:**

a) Senator CAMERON: ..... Is the tender for the business plan going out in the first tranche?  
Mr Shepherd: This is the RFT for the different tranches to build. We are looking at post 1 July. We would have to take on notice as to the actual time and sequences to be worked through.

b) Senator CAMERON: I am just worried that there might be a lot of talk between DHS and the Department of Industry, and they would put out a tender and it is all forgotten about. That is what I am concerned about.

Senator Payne: This is integral to what we are doing. It will not be forgotten about.

Senator CAMERON: It is integral. Can you explain to me how that integral approach is reflected in the tender documents?

Senator Payne: The tender documents are not yet finalised.

Senator CAMERON: I know that. That is why I am asking. There is no use asking after it if it is not there.

Senator Payne: I think Mr Shepherd has been through a monthly set of meetings with you, beginning in February and stretching to 27 May, which are a consistent part of this process to ensure that that engagement is there.

Senator CAMERON: Can this be part of the briefing that I get?

Senator Payne: We will take that on notice and try to incorporate that, yes.

#### **Answer:**

a) The new infrastructure will be implemented in a staged approach through collaboration between public and private sector organisations with a view to building long term partnerships. The initial procurement activities in Tranche One will be a competitive process to identify vendors to provide software and solution integration capabilities for the transformation programme. Details of the procurement activities will be published on the AusTender website, in accordance with the Commonwealth Procurement Rules.

b) On 25 June 2015, the department provided a briefing to Senator the Hon Doug Cameron regarding the Welfare Payment Infrastructure Transformation programme. The information Senator Cameron was seeking was incorporated into this briefing.