

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

National e-Health Transition Authority (NeHTA)

Budget Estimates 2011-12, Supplementary Estimates

Question: 7

OUTCOME 10.2: e-Health

Topic: Staff Turnover

Senator Boyce asked:

During the October Estimates hearing evidence was given that the annualised staff turnover at NEHTA is 28 to 30 percent. Such a high turnover figure must be of concern and in human resources terms wouldn't such a figure be seen as an indicator of an unhappy work place. During those October Estimates, NEHTA CEO Mr Fleming endeavoured to explain the figure away by saying and I quote, "In terms of consulting groups it is actually on a par with what we see in the industry." How does the employment contract situation of NEHTA resemble that of a consultancy?

Answer:

NEHTA's employment contracts are more akin to a commercial enterprise than a government department. Many people at NEHTA are engaged for a specific fixed term or on the basis of specialist skills.