

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 23-24 OCTOBER 2014 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: ICT Security

Question reference number: HS 25

Senator: Cameron

Type of question: Written

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Question:

With reference to ANAO Report 50 Cyber Attacks: Securing Agencies' ICT Systems, please provide an update on progress to resolving the security issues concerning DHS ICT systems.

Answer:

This report rated the Department of Human Services' performance favourably relative to other agencies in the Audit. The department applies an approach of continuous improvement to cyber security, as technology evolves.

Findings 1 & 2

The department has work underway, finishing in 2016, which will enhance security.

Finding 3

The department periodically assesses security vulnerability to its systems through security risk assessment and penetration testing processes. These processes form part of the department's security accreditation framework.