

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio
2016-17 Supplementary Budget Estimates
20 October 2016

DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: business.gov.au

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 20 October 2016, page 120-121)

QUESTION No.: SI-31

Senator KIM CARR: Thank you. In regard to the business.gov.au website, what is the funding profile for that?

Mr Boyley: As part of a program of work called the single business service program, we have recently undertaken a redevelopment of business.gov.au. Is that the cost you are referring to?

Senator KIM CARR: Yes.

Mr Boyley: That program involves a large number of projects. The program aims to make it simpler for businesses to access the information they need at the time that they want it and through the format they want it. The business.gov.au redevelopment work was carried out in tranche 2, which was completed in June 2016. Tranche 2 delivered \$33½ million worth of benefits to Australian businesses and to the department more broadly.

Senator KIM CARR: How much did it cost?

Mr Boyley: The total cost for the business.gov.au redevelopment was \$4,110,906.

Senator KIM CARR: So \$4.1 million.

Mr Boyley: Correct.

Senator KIM CARR: Does that include the ongoing maintenance cost?

Mr Boyley: That includes the software licensing costs and it includes the hosting costs. The department built the website in the cloud on the Microsoft Azure cloud platform, so it includes those costs. It does not include the ongoing costs for the content component of the site. It is the first building component to the point where the project—

Senator KIM CARR: Sure, so \$4 million to build it. How much to run it?

Mr Boyley: I will have to take that on notice. I only have the construction costs.

ANSWER

The total cost to run the business.gov.au website is \$2.1 million per year. This includes maintaining the technical platform, license costs, maintaining existing content, creating and publishing new content, analytics and search engine optimisation, publishing news and events and managing feedback.