Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2015-16

Finance Portfolio
9 February 2016

Department/Agency: Department of Finance
Outcome/Program: 2/2.2
Topic: Finance's responsibility for ICT functions

Senator: McAllister
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Question:

Senator McALLISTER: ... in reviewing the org chart, I noticed that there are quite a number of branches that seem to deal with ICT functions in different business units within Finance. Could you just describe or even take on notice to provide a list of each business unit which is involved in ICT and a description of the precise tasks that they undertake, how many staff are in each unit and a breakdown of the classification of each staff member?
Ms Halton: Certainly. We will take that on notice. But let us be clear. We have a whole-of-government responsibility in respect of procurement more broadly, and part of what we do is also in respect of ICT procurement ...
Senator McALLISTER: It would be helpful to understand, in the broad, how you interact with the Digital Transformation Office, which I understand has recently moved from the department of communications into Prime Minister and Cabinet.
Ms Halton: That is right.
Senator McALLISTER: Also, any residual functions with the department of communications relating to ICT where you are interacting with them around the government's overall strategy. I am trying to get a handle—
Ms Halton: Yes. I get it.
Senator McALLISTER: on how the overall strategy is working and who is involved and what your role is in that, in particular.
Ms Halton: ... But we will give you that on notice—very happy to.

Answer:

Finance has ongoing responsibility for the use of Information and Communication Technology to support a smaller, more efficient and sustainable public sector. The Digital Transformation Office was established on 1 July 2015, with a focus on improving service delivery to the public, including through digital channels. The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet has responsibility for public data policy such as open and big data.

Finance's resources directed to procurement and delivery of ICT, both internally and for whole-of-government are as follows:

- Technology and Procurement Division (TPD) is responsible for procurement policy, advice and operations and the delivery of whole-of-government information and communications technology services.
- Central Budget Management System (CBMS) is responsible for the core ICT system used by Commonwealth entities to manage the Australian Government's financial and budget management information. Work is also underway on the redevelopment of the CBMS.
- Efficiency, Assurance and Digital Government (EADG) cluster has the whole-of-government lead for the efficient and effective use of ICT, not related to service delivery and procurement. This includes development of whole-of-government ICT policies, benchmarking and management of the ICT Investment Framework.
- Information, Technology and Workplace Division manages Finance's internal ICT requirements including through the provision of a stable and secure IT environment.

The staffing of these areas is as follows:

Division	Senior Executive Service staff	Executive Level staff	Australian Public Service Level staff
TPD & CBMS	8	84	109
EADG	0.4	13.5	12
ITWD	2	48	34.6

Note – These numbers relate to the full range of functions for each area as outlined in the points above.