

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2014-15

Finance Portfolio

Department/Agency: Finance

Outcome/Program: 2/2.1

Topic: Tender process for Master Media Agency

Senator: Jacinta Collins, Wong

Question reference number: F67

Type of question: Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 73, 29 May 2014

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 11 July 2014

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: When is it due to come into place?

Mr Sheridan: I think it is the middle of the financial year, but I will check that and see.

Senator WONG: Can you tell me who was the decision-maker on the tender?

Mr Sheridan: Indeed. I am trying to think who actually signed the delegation. I think it was me, but I will check that and make sure.

Senator WONG: Just remind me. In an open tender process, what was the consideration and who was involved in that? You have an open tender. Who considers it? Is it a panel? Just remind me of that.

Mr Sheridan: Indeed. There is an evaluation team. A tender evaluation plan is established.

Senator WONG: Thank you. It is a tender evaluation team.

Mr Sheridan: The evaluation team does that. That is worked through. Then eventually the delegate signs off. As I said, I just need to check that.

Senator WONG: That is fine. Were members of the evaluation team entirely from Finance?

Mr Sheridan: I think we had some outside people as well.

Senator WONG: External providers?

Mr Sheridan: External to Finance, indeed.

Senator WONG: Could you advise on notice who those were as well?

Mr Sheridan: Indeed.

...

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Some of that leads to my last remaining question. You mention that discussions with departments and agencies are ongoing. Can you appraise us of the stage of those discussions and who they have been with? Who has been contacted and who is yet to be?

...

Mr Sheridan: We have an implementation plan for the transition. It is laid out. We are working our way through the implementation plan.

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Could that be made available?

Mr Sheridan: I will take that on notice because I need to check.

Answer:

The Master Media Agency Deed was executed on 15 April 2014. The services commencement date specified in the Deed is 1 July 2014.

The First Assistant Secretary, Technology and Procurement Division approved the procurement documentation and signed the Master Media Agency Deed. The then Secretary of the department was the financial delegate.

Two agency representatives participated in the evaluation team. In addition, the evaluation team was supported by Sparke Helmore who provided legal and probity advice and Trinity P3 who provided industry advice.

Implementation planning is embodied in a Communications and Change Management Plan, which covers transition to the new Master Media Agency arrangement. Discussions with agencies is an ongoing activity and takes place concurrently through a number of communication channels, such as a secure GovDex community, guidance documentation, a Finance internet web page, agency forums and training sessions.