

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates Hearing 26 May- 5 June 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Office of the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security

Outcome/Program: Outcome 1

Topic: IT network upgrade

Senator: Collins

Question reference number: 33

Type of question: FPA, Monday 26 May 2014, page 124

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator Jacinta Collins: Dr Thom, could you provide the committee with a little bit more detail about what is required in terms of the upgrade to the IT network?

Dr Thom: I am sorry, I do not know what upgrade to the IT network you are referring to. We made a minor upgrade to our own internal IT network. Is that what you are referring to?

Senator Jacinta Collins: In the budget statement on page 237, there is the statement under balance sheet that in 2014-15 it is anticipated that the secure IT network, which represents the most significant component of your assets, will be upgraded.

Dr Thom: We are a very small agency. We rely on PM&C for our open network. We have a small internal closed network. Although it represents a major investment for us, we are talking about the replacement of desktop and the operating environment. I cannot recall the exact figure, but it is not a large number. It is just a routine periodic replacement of our internal network.

Senator Jacinta Collins: Perhaps you could provide me with that actual figure on notice, because you also state at that point that OIGIS also holds office equipment and furniture, the majority of which are owned by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and provided free of charge.

Dr Thom: That is correct.

Senator Jacinta Collins: But that is not the case with the IT.

Dr Thom: Some of the IT is owned by PM&C and provided free of charge, but we have other systems as well.

Senator Jacinta Collins: Perhaps if you could clarify that point for me on notice.

Answer:

The upgrade referred to on page 237 of the Parliamentary Budget Statement is for the OIGIS secure IT system. In 2013-14 we received \$69,000 departmental capital budget to cover the cost of the upgrade to the system. Because the upgrade was delayed we sought and received permission to move \$66,000 of the unspent departmental capital budget to the 2014-15 financial year. This forms part of the \$92,000 figure in Table 3.2.5 on page 243 of the Parliamentary Budget Statement.

OIGIS declines to provide specific details about the components of its classified computer systems for reasons relating to security.