

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

Finance Portfolio  
27-28 May 2015

**Department/Agency:** Department of Finance

**Outcome/Program:** 1/1.1

**Topic:** Welfare Payment Infrastructure Transformation – Tranche One

**Senator:** Wong

**Question reference number:** F113

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** Friday, 10 July 2015

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

1. What role will Finance play in relation to the Human Services measure ‘Welfare Payment Infrastructure Transformation – Tranche One’?
2. When is it envisaged that work on the actual new ICT system would begin? What role would Finance play in that?
3. Can the Department explain where the savings of \$44.7 million in 2017-18 and \$64.2 million in 2018-19 are coming from? What expenditure is being decreased?

**Answer:**

1. Finance is responsible for administering the Gateway Review Process for the Welfare Payment Infrastructure Transformation programme. The review will be conducted by an independent review team appointed by Finance.
2. Funding for Tranche One of the Welfare Payment Infrastructure Transformation will be provided to the Department of Human Services (DHS) from 1 July 2015. Other than the Gateway Review, Finance has no formal ongoing role in the development of the new ICT system.
3. The four digital projects which are included in Tranche One of the Welfare Payment Infrastructure Transformation programme will enhance DHS’s digital service delivery channels and generate efficiencies, including reducing the number of staff required to deliver face to face and call centre services.