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

Finance Portfolio
20 October 2015

Department/Agency: Department of Finance
Outcome/Program: 1/1.1
Topic: Stakeholder consultation on CBMS-R project

Senator: Ludwig
Question reference number: F30
Type of question: Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Page 87, 20 October 2015
Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 4 December 2015

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator LUDWIG: Has there been stakeholder consultation?
...
Senator LUDWIG: Coming back to what I call stakeholder consultation, do you get feedback from them? How is it structured, and what is that feedback if you do get it?
Ms Huxtable: We are probably getting into a lot of very technical sorts of areas.
Senator LUDWIG: I am happy for you to take it on notice and give me a broad overview, then.
Ms Huxtable: We can do that. Certainly, in terms of the engagement with the business, there have been very many workshops—we called them something in particular but I cannot remember what.

Answer:

The project has regularly consulted with the budget process owners in the Departments of Finance and the Treasury regarding the requirements for the solution design of the central budget management system (CBMS). This consultation has been ongoing and has involved feedback on design specification documentation from workshops and solution demonstrations.

The project has also consulted with other Australian Government entities through their Chief Financial Officers and other personnel on a broad range of matters through user groups, information on the department's website, meetings and presentations. The project will conduct further consultation on the differences between the existing CBMS and the redeveloped CBMS, entities' readiness to transition, training and participation in user acceptance testing at the appropriate time.

To target our engagement and support for the 179 entities that will use the system, a small group of key entities (a subset of six departments from the CBMS User Group) has been established to trial our training and to provide peer reviews of communication materials.

Feedback is sought and received from stakeholders through various mechanisms including email, meetings and workshops, the project's GovDex community, directly to project staff and presentations. Feedback includes confirmation of business requirements, changes to business processes and project activities and timeframe.