

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 20 OCTOBER 2009**

#### **IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

##### **(10) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration – Office of the MARA**

Senator Barnett (L&C 27) asked:

Provide an update on the progress with establishing the website in a secure form. As well, include full particulars of the terms and conditions of the contractors involved, consultancies to establish the new website, the human resources involved and the cost of the new website.

*Answer:*

The security issues have been addressed and will be finalised once the Security Risk Management Plan is endorsed by the Department's IT Security Section and the data transfer testing is complete.

The Department's Systems Division has contracted an IT Security Analyst and an IT Solution Architect to provide assistance to establish the new website in a secure environment. A further 0.35 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) has been allocated from departmental resources to assist in the establishment of the website. The total cost of these contractors and staff has been \$53 549 as at 9 November 2009.

Elcom Technology is providing the web application development including a content management system. The anticipated cost of their services is \$30,000. As at 9 November 2009, \$5 330 has been disbursed against this estimate.

To establish the new website the Office of the MARA engaged one contractor on a temporary basis (FTE 0.6) to project manage the establishment of the website and the review of content. To date the cost for this contractor has been \$10 270. The anticipated cost is \$15 000. An additional 0.6 FTE of existing Office of the MARA employees has been engaged in managing the project, testing functionality and rewriting content. This cost has been absorbed through normal staff costs.

The total cost, inclusive of departmental and Office of the MARA costs, to date has been \$69 149. The anticipated total cost is \$100 000.

Terms and conditions of contracts follow normal government standards which include provisions that deal with the services to be performed, intellectual property, privacy, insurances and the like. All contracts are independently checked for compliance with Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines before they are executed.