Australian Government
Digital Transformation Agency

dta

Opening Statement, Mr Chris Fechner

Budget Supplementary Estimates 2021–22
Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

Good evening Senators

I am Chris Fechner, and I'd like to briefly introduce myself as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Digital Transformation Agency (DTA).

I've been in the job just 10 days and I am thrilled to be joining the agency at the start of our new mandate supporting digital and ICT across whole of Government.

I've joined the Australian Public Service from the Queensland Government where I was most recently the Government Chief Customer and Digital Officer. Prior to that I was the Chief Digital and Product Officer at Service NSW. These two roles have highlighted to me the need for simple, secure, and efficient digital government for our citizens and businesses and within our sector. I am relishing the opportunity to have an impact through the DTA on the national scale.

The DTA's new mandate came into effect on the 1st of July. We now:

- Provide strategy and policy leadership on whole of government digital and ICT

- Develop, deliver, and monitor whole of government strategies, policies, and standards for digital and ICT investments

- Oversee digital and ICT investments across their life cycle, including providing advice on reuse opportunities to enhance value

- Manage whole of government digital procurement to simplify use, reduce costs to government and industry, and maximise value from Commonwealth spend

- Advise our Minister on whole of government and digital and ICT investment proposals

- And, in keeping with out "Transformation" label, undertake digital initiatives as the Minister may require.

Our new mandate, coupled with our move to the Prime Minister and Cabinet, represents a new chapter for the DTA.

I'm proud to lead the DTA in this new chapter and I believe we are well placed to work across the community, government, and industry to drive the government's digital agenda.

Thank you. My team and I look forward to taking your questions.