



2021-22 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING OPENING STATEMENT 24 May 2021

Thank you Chair.

I'd like to provide the committee with a brief update on the DTA's role and priorities.

On 15 April 2021, the DTA was returned to the Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio. This central position, coupled with a refinement of our role, reinforces our whole-of-government focus and allows us to better support the Government's vision for Australia to be a leading digital economy and society by 2030.

The Digital Transformation Strategy will be refreshed by the end of this year. It will be aligned with the Digital Economy Strategy and the significant local and global shifts that have occurred as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We're also developing a whole-of-government Architecture to support a more joined-up approach to Digital and ICT. This will support decision making across the full lifecycle, from investment decisions and program design through to implementation, support, decommissioning and review.

As part of the Government's response to the Independent Review of the APS, we're continuing to progress the Digital Review. This will provide a comprehensive baseline of Digital and ICT which, when combined with the whole-of-government Architecture, will support the development of a whole-of-government ICT blueprint.

In partnership with Services Australia, we're continuing to improve myGov. We've supported the delivery of four releases of the myGov Beta since June 2020, which have been informed by thousands of pieces of user feedback.

The 2 million people who've chosen to create a Digital Identity can now use this to simply, safely, and secure sign in to myGov. Consultation on the proposed legislation to support the expansion of Digital Identity into states, territories and the private sector is also underway.

In the global competition for skills, we're working hard to improve Digital and ICT capabilities across the APS. The APS Digital Profession was launched in April 2020 and we now have almost 1,600 members. We're helping to bridge the gap between the capabilities we have now, and what we expect to need in the future.

Finally, in the very important area of Cyber Security, we're progressing the implementation of the Hosting Strategy, Protected Utility, and Cyber Hub pilots. The Hosting Certification Framework, which was released in March 2021, is assisting agencies to mitigate ownership and supply chain risks and ensuring that government data and systems remain secure.

Senators, I thank you for the opportunity to provide an opening statement. We look forward to taking your questions.