THE SENATE

SENATE FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION REFERENCES COMMITTEE

Digital Delivery
Written Questions on Notice — Bureau of Meteorology

Senator Patrick has asked:

Can the BOM provide the following information on the delivery of ROBUST?

1. Please provide the committee with any documents used by the Department to justify and have approve the decision for the ROBUST project budget to be classified as ‘not for publication’ in the Budget Papers?

   The ROBUST Program budget has been classified as 'not for publication' due to commercial-in-confidence and security sensitivities. Documents associated with the decision-making process on funding for the ROBUST Program are cabinet-in-confidence.

2. By position (and name, if a SES equivalent officer or above - including a Minister), who approved the decision to have the ROBUST budget classified as ‘not for publication‘ in the Budget Papers?

   The ROBUST Program budget has been classified as 'not for publication' due to commercial-in-confidence and security sensitivities, in line with standard Budget processes.

3. Please provide details of each of the 7 interrelated procurement processes, including:

   A. What the procurement aims to achieve in terms of software capability and function?

   B. What the procurement aims to procure in terms of hardware capability and function?

   C. What the procurement aims to procure in terms of services?

   D. The mode of each procurement (e.g. sole source, limited tender, open tender, other)

   E. The status of each procurement (e.g. tender in preparation, tender released, response received, etc)

   The Bureau is unable to disclose the details of active procurements due to commercial-in-confidence sensitivities. Limited contract details will be published on AusTender in accordance with the Commonwealth Procurement Rules.

4. Please describe in detail the interaction that exists between each of the seven procurement processes.

   Inter-relationships exist between some procurement processes. For example, there are separate procurements that relate to capability uplift and the acquisition of software. These procurements are inter-dependent, as the capability uplift procurement will need to ensure relevant Bureau staff are adequately upskilled to operate the new software acquired. There are also linkages between the services/hardware or software that will be procured to achieve program outcomes.

5. Please provide a list of all contracts that have been awarded under the ROBUST project and the AUSTENDER reference number.

   Please see below a list of contracts, purchase orders and work orders over $10,000 awarded under the ROBUST Program as at 9 May 2018 (excluding standard labour hire contracts). The Bureau will continue to publish contracts, purchase orders or work orders on AUSTENDER within 42 days of entering into the contract as required.

Contract title – AusTender	**AUSTENDER reference number**
Computer Monitors	CN3479399
Legal Services	CN3489774
Legal Advisory Services	CN3453905-A1
Hardware	CN3487534
Hardware	CN3484199
Hardware	CN3470457
Hardware	CN3482066
Hardware	CN3470452
Software	CN3479388
ITSM Tool & Implementation	CN3408597-A4
Software	CN3490431
Hardware	CN3485646
Hardware	CN3470474
Business Case Consultant	CN3467481-A1
Consultancy Services	CN3494410
Business Case Consultant	CN3489765
IT consultancy services	CN3430651
Capacity Management Capability	CN3484271
ICT Security Reviewer	CN3468572
Security Services	CN3488619
Software	CN3496063
Software Licence	CN3481368
Security Consultant	CN3480567
Electrical	CN3452423
Rent	CN3453897
Class B Security Containers	CN3445494
Business Transformation services	CN3485689
Software Licence	CN3487174
Printing Services	CN3456663
Palo Alto Specialist	CN3493792
Management Advisory	CN3457854-A1
Management Consultancy	CN3477293

Contract title – AusTender	AUSTENDER reference number
Consultancy Services	CN3456230
Testing services	CN3499008
Technology Operational Capability	CN3499014
Cyber Security Assessment	CN3498999

6. How many BOM FTE staff are working on the ROBUST Project?

   The Bureau is unable to disclose the details of staffing due to commercial-in-confidence sensitivities. Disclosure of this information could be used to estimate the ROBUST Program budget and is therefore likely to prejudice active and future tender processes, resulting in reduced value for money.

7. How many FTE contractors and consultants are working on the ROBUST Project?

   The Bureau is unable to disclose the details of contractors and consultants due to commercial-in-confidence sensitivities. Disclosure of this information could be used to estimate the ROBUST Program budget and is therefore likely to prejudice active and future tender processes, resulting in reduced value for money.

8. What has been the (BOM) internal expense to date in respect of the ROBUST Project?

   The Bureau has contributed approximately $6.1 million to the ROBUST Program to date, including through the development of the business case to Government for the Program, gathering requirements, program planning, and training and information sessions.

9. What are the key design (including preliminary and critical design review), development, testing, and commissioning milestones for the project and on what dates are each of those key milestones due?

   The ROBUST Program includes various design, development, testing and commissioning milestones. These milestones are regularly monitored and reported on through project delivery plans and project schedules and to governance and oversight bodies.

   The milestones for the ROBUST Program cannot be provided due to commercial-in-confidence sensitivities associated with active procurement processes.

10. What is the expected completion date for the project?

    The expected completion date for the project is 30 June 2022.

11. Is BOM taking project/engineering responsibility for the integration of all of the seven interrelated projects or is this responsibility being contracted out?

    The Bureau is the integrator, integrating the deliverables provided by vendors. The Bureau is also responsible for system integration testing, security testing, resilience testing and user acceptance testing.

12. What Project Management Standards are being used for this project?

    A strong emphasis has been placed on project management and governance to ensure the scale and complexity of the ROBUST Program is appropriately managed.

    A Program Management Office has been established and the delivery of work packages are supported by project management frameworks that align to industry and Government best practice.

    A governance framework for the ROBUST Program has been established that incorporates existing controls within the Bureau, while adding necessary controls from Government agencies external to the Bureau. This ensures the program adopts a whole-of-government approach and maintains alignment with the requirements of key government agencies.

    Under the program, the Bureau closely engages with the Digital Transformation Agency's Digital Investment Management Office, the Department of Environment and Energy and the Department of Finance to ensure appropriate government assurance and risk management.

    The Bureau is required to report bi-monthly to the Digital Transformation Agency as part of the Digital Investment Review Reporting. This reporting provides oversight of program financial performance, risks and benefit realisation. The DTA report this data to the Digital Transformation and Public Sector Modernisation Committee of Cabinet every two months.

    Oversight of the program is also undertaken through a range of governance bodies. This includes advisory groups that have external Government agencies as members, including the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Department of Finance and the Digital Transformation Agency.

    The ROBUST Program is also subject to assurance processes such as the Gateway Review by the Department of Finance.

13. What System Engineering Standards are being used for this project?

    The ROBUST Program covers a wide range of activities. Each component of these activities has its own relevant systems engineering standards that align to industry and Government best practice. Prince 2 is being used for overall project and program management. The technology architecture is utilising Togaf, business analysis is utilising BAbok and both IT waterfall and Agile Safe approaches are being used to design, build and test for different program elements.

    The major security driver for the program is following the Protective Security Policy Framework and Information Security Manual controls with an overlay of National Institute of Standards and Technology framework to add additional capabilities. ISO 27001 has also contributed to the list of controls. The controls are also mapped to the Australian Signals Directorate Top 37 Cyber Mitigation Strategies.

    Open standards are also a key requirement for technology platforms to ensure inter system compatibility and ease of use with partners, citizens and other government agencies.

    In addition, all activities in the ROBUST Program are consistent with and support the whole-of-government ICT and digital service delivery agenda.

14. Please provide the Committee with a copy of the Project Management Plan (in draft if a final version has not been completed)

    Like all government agencies, the Bureau operates in a high threat cyber security environment and continually works to strengthen IT security. The Program Management Plan details threats and high-level design information, which is likely to compromise the security of the Bureau's systems and would likely prejudice active and future tender processes, resulting in reduced value for money.

15. Please provide the Committee with a copy of the System Engineering Plan (in draft if a final version has not been completed)

    Like all government agencies, the Bureau operates in a high threat cyber security environment and continually works to strengthen IT security. Disclosure of any ICT architecture documents are likely to compromise the security of the Bureau's systems.

16. Please provide the Committee with a copy of the Project Risk Register.

    The Bureau is taking a systematic and rigorous approach to risk management. Risk management practices for the ROBUST Program are undertaken in accordance with the ROBUST Risk Management Plan, the Bureau’s Risk Management Policy and Handbook, and the International Standard for Risk Management (AS/NZS 31000:2009) which promotes the continuous improvement of risk management.

    The ROBUST Program's Risk Register cannot be disclosed as it contains sensitive information about system design and vulnerabilities to potential threats. Disclosure of the Project Risk Register is likely to compromise the security of the Bureau's systems.