

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES – 11 FEBRUARY 2016 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Medicare Payment System

Question reference number: HS 6

Senator: Cameron

Type of question: Hansard pages 117-118

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 April 2016

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator CAMERON: So you just muddle along—no, I will not say 'muddle along' because that is wrong. You sort of patch this up as you go along to make sure that the MPS system continues to deliver.

Mr Sterrenberg: I will need to go on notice for the exact figures, but I think up until 2012 the MPS system was actually run—

Senator CAMERON: We got him, Secretary! We got him!

Mr Sterrenberg: It was run by an outsourced contractor with IBM. We moved it in-house after that date to get the scale advantages that we had on our mainframe.

Ms Campbell: I think we discovered in 2012 that there were some significant shortfalls in its capabilities because we had not been looking at it as closely.

Answer:

The MPS system function was brought back in-house on 1 November 2012.