

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 1 JUNE 2017 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Medicare Compensation Recovery Computer System

Question reference number: HS 47 (SQ17-000128)

Senator: Watt

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 21 July 2017

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) Was a new computer system commissioned in Medicare Compensation Recovery designed to enable solicitors and interested parties to deal with repayments on line in a self-service capacity?
- b) Was the contract to develop the system put to tender and if so which company won the tender?
- c) Was the contract worth \$14 million?
- d) Was the project abandoned as unworkable?
- e) Was the \$14 million paid out? Was any of this money recouped given the project failed to deliver?

Answer:

a) – e)

In 2014, the Department undertook work to develop enhancements to the Medicare Compensation Recovery System. This work was conducted and funded internally. The Department did not go out to tender for this work.

In 2016, the Government committed to replace the Health and Aged Care payment system and subsequently the enhancements to the Medicare Compensation Recovery system was ceased. While the enhancements have not been completed, they will be considered under the wider Health and Aged Care payment system replacement process.