Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 22 OCTOBER 2015
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: IT – Digital Transformation Office

Question reference number: HS 82

Senator: Cameron
Type of question: Written
Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 December 2015
Number of pages: 1

Question:

Please provide details of the changed responsibilities between DHS and the Digital Transformation Office including the cost to the Department of the changed responsibilities.

Answer:

Under the Administrative Arrangements Order, the Department of Human Services is responsible for the design, development, delivery, co-ordination and monitoring of government services, social security, child support, students, families, aged care and health programmes (excluding Medicare provider compliance) and superannuation release.

The functions of the Digital Transformation Office were set out in the Order establishing it as an Executive Agency in March 2015, taking effect from 1 July 2015. The Digital Transformation Office is responsible for: leadership on government service delivery; user centred whole of government service delivery policies and standard; and design, governance and coordination of funding of whole-of-government platforms. From 30 September 2015, further amendments were made to the Administrative Arrangements Orders which transferred the responsibility for service delivery policy and the Digital Transformation Office from the Communications Portfolio to the Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio.

The Department has not incurred any costs as a result of the changed responsibilities arising from the changes to the Administrative Arrangements Order. The Department is, however, contributing to the delivery of the Digital Transformation Agenda as announced in the 2015-16 Budget.

The Department is working co-operatively with the Digital Transformation Office to progress the Digital Transformation Agenda.