

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015

Agency – Workplace Gender Equality Agency

Department of Employment Question No. EM1271_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing

Question

WGEA – Cloud Services and Storage

1. Is the department using or planning to use cloud digital services (e.g. storage, computer software access etc)? If yes:
2. What date did/will cloud services be deployed in the department?
3. Please provide a list of all cloud services in use or being considered for use.
4. How much do these services cost? Please break down by service.
5. How much cloud storage (in gigabytes) is available for departmental use? What percentage of the available total is in use?
6. How much does this cloud storage cost per month?
7. What security arrangements are in place to protect cloud based services and storage?
8. Have any security analysts been employed / contracted to advise on the implementation and upkeep of these security arrangements?
9. What has been the cost of security for the cloud? Please provide a breakdown.

Answer

1. Yes.
2. 14 March 2013.
3. Sugar CRM, IBM Cognos, Drupal CMS (in a private cloud environment).
4. The Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA) is charged a monthly support and maintenance fee of \$29,333.33 (excluding GST) as part of a managed service arrangement for the provision of all these components.
5. 22.433TB (22971.392GB) of available storage space. The percentage of available space in use is approximately 56%.
6. Storage is included in the monthly support and maintenance fee (see question 4).
7. Access to the WGEA solution is protected by a Shibboleth Service Provider. Each Service Provider authenticates against the Department of Employment's Active Directory Federation Service for internal users via SAML2. This means that all external requests are protected and forced to be authenticated before access to the system is gained. The physical infrastructure itself sits in a secure private rack, located within a data centre that is a member of the Commonwealth Government's Data Centre as a Service (DCaaS) Multi Use List. The rack is locked and only approved personnel can access the floor on which the rack is located.
8. WGEA undertook an IRAP security assessment of the solution to ensure that the solution complies with the relevant Australian Government information security recommendations.
9. The ongoing cost of cloud security is included in the monthly support and maintenance fee (see question 4).