Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2014-15

Finance Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance

Outcome/Program: 1/1.1

Topic: Costs of property for merger between Customs and Immigration

Senator: Lundy

Question reference number: F20

Type of question: Hansard, F&PA Committee, Pages 78-79, 24 February 2015 **Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** Friday, 10 April 2015

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator LUNDY: I just want to be very clear on where those touch points are with the Department of Finance.

Ms Halton: Costing for any significant proposal that the government would agree.

Senator LUNDY: Does this one fall into that category of potentially being more than a \$30

million whole-of-life costs?

Mr Owens: We suspect that this transaction would.

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Senator LUNDY: Does that include the potential costs of property?

...

Ms Halton: The officers of budget group are not here at the moment, so I cannot tell you. I receive various views of it. I have not seen anything on this recently. Whether they have actually signed anything off, I cannot tell you. I think not, but if that is wrong we will confirm that.

Senator LUNDY: Would you take that on notice for me?

Ms Halton: Yes, certainly.

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Senator LUNDY: You have taken on notice to give me a status report on the budget review process in relation to that.

Ms Halton: Yes, of whether we have actually signed something off.

Answer:

As at the Committee hearing date of 24 February 2015 the Department of Finance has not signed a costing agreement for the proposed Department of Immigration and Border Protection headquarters accommodation.