

**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:** Contestability Framework

**Senator:** Ludwig

**Question reference number:** F64

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** Friday, 10 April 2015

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

I refer you to question F22 from Supplementary Estimates in 2014.

1. Could you please outline the details of the pilot phase of the program? Please include:
2. Which agencies are involved in development and implementation?
3. Please put together a timeline for the pilot program: including when it began; when it will end; and any other important mile stones.
4. What outcomes are expected from the pilot program?
5. Have any studies been commissioned to help develop the pilot program? If yes: please list them and include: the date they began; their end date (or expected end date); their cost; and who ordered them.

**Answer:**

The pilot phase of the Efficiency through Contestability Programme (Contestability Programme) commenced in late-2014 and is expected to be completed shortly.

The pilot phase is being utilised to trial the Contestability Programme's methodology, operation and related guidance before being rolled out across government.

A number of entities have been involved in the development and implementation of the Contestability Programme including the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Department of the Treasury providing input in the design of the Contestability Programme. The following entities have been involved in:

- Pilot Portfolio Stocktakes – the Finance and Communications Portfolios;
- Contestability Reviews – a number of entities have been involved in specific Contestability Reviews, that are currently being considered by Government; and
- Functional and Efficiency Reviews – the Departments of Education and Training; and Health.