

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet
Topic: 176: .GOV.AU

Senator: McAllister, Jenny

Question reference number: 176

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Number of pages: 2

Question:

1. What is the budget for:
 - a) the protection of government sites from cyber-attacks?
 - b) monitoring user satisfaction with these websites and respond to public demand?
2. What budget was put together to support the development of the business case to advance the GOV.AU? Was there an under or overspend on the GOV.AU project?
3. How many DTO staff, consultants, technicians and contractors were assigned to commence the actual build of GOV.AU ahead of the signoff of the business case?
4. Was the business case completed and ready for submission to Cabinet – or the Digital Transformation Committee? Who was tasked with the job to consider the business case: the full Cabinet or the DTC?
5. What is the status of the GOV.AU project? Does the government have alternative plans to manage the growth in multiple government websites?
6. Was the Finance Minister or Assistant Minister advised about the budget impact of not proceeding with considering of the business plan and continued GOV.AU build?

Answer:

1. a) The allocation of funding and spend for cyber-attacks is managed by various Commonwealth Departments and not by the GOV.AU project. This request would constitute an unreasonable diversion of resources.
b) The allocation of funding and spend for monitoring user satisfaction is managed by various Commonwealth Departments and not by the GOV.AU project. This request would constitute an unreasonable diversion of resources.
2. The total cost was \$764,965 and was managed within the allocated budget.
3. 39 staff.
4. Consideration of the GOV.AU business case would be a matter for the Digital Transformation Committee of Cabinet. As per longstanding practice, it is not appropriate to reveal what matters may or may not have been considered by the Cabinet.

5. The GOV.AU project and its original goal is progressing and the Digital Transformation Agency is working with Government agencies to decrease the number of websites.
6. Matters relating to financial expenditure and budget impact of projects are managed by the Agency and not the Finance Minister or the Assistant Minister for Cities and Digital Transformation.