

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013-2014

Finance Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance

Outcome/Program: 1/1.1

Topic: Commonwealth Procurement Panel

Senator: Wong

Question reference number: F60

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday 17 January 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

1. Has work commenced on the single, rationalised Commonwealth procurement panel to administer a centralised register of service providers who wish to contract with the Commonwealth, which is to be centrally administered by Finance as per the Government's Boosting Productivity and Reducing Regulation policy?
2. If so, which branch in Finance is responsible for this procurement panel?
3. Are any additional financial resources required to set up the procurement panel?
4. How many Commonwealth procurement panels were in existence at the time of the 2013 Federal Election?
5. How many panellists are envisaged to be on the single procurement panel?
6. What is the duration of the single procurement panel arrangements?
7. If work has not commenced on the single, rationalised Commonwealth procurement panel, why not?

Answer:

Finance is currently expanding the AusTender procurement system to automate agencies' online tendering and purchasing activities generated under whole-of-government and other cooperative arrangements (known as Dynamic Sourcing). Prior to implementing the Dynamic Sourcing project, Finance will analyse the nature and scope of existing panel arrangements reported on AusTender with a view to rationalisation.

As at 7 September 2013, there were 1,104 active procurement panels and multi-use lists reported on AusTender.