QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE14/204) PROGRAMME – Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

Senator Cash announced that Australia's Next Generation Automated eGates were undergoing testing and would be rolled out for a live trial at Brisbane Airport from July 2014.
a. Provide a breakdown in costs for this project.
b. Who is developing the eGates for ACBPS?
c. Was there a tender process for the rollout of eGates?
d. If not, why?
e. What was the cost of the contract?
What is the planned roll out of the new eGates (i.e. what airports will get the new gates next and when)?

Answer:

a. The project will be delivered over two years at a cost of $8.4 million. The Australian Customs and Border Protection Service and the Department of Immigration and Border Protection will absorb $7 million and $1.4 million respectively.
b. Two eGates, one supplied by Morpho and one supplied by IBM/VisionBox are being trialed in a competitive process.
c. A tender process was used to establish a panel of technology providers for automated border processing and biometric technologies. The panel was established in November 2013. A request for quote was issued to this panel to acquire the technology currently in trial.
d. Not applicable.
e. Total cost of the contracts involved to date is $1,840,223.
f. The eGate trial will be conducted at Brisbane International Airport. The trial commences 1 July 2014 and is scheduled to run for a year.