

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Finance and Administration Portfolio**

**Commonwealth Grants Commission**

Supplementary Estimates Hearings - 1 November 2005

**Question: F35**

**Outcome 1, Output 1.1**

**Topic: Performance of Information Technology outsourcing arrangements.**

**Written Question on Notice:**

**Senator Conroy asked:**

1. Please provide details of total departmental/organisational spending on Information and Communications Technology products and services during the last 12 months.
2. Please break down this spending by ICT function (eg communications, security, private network, websites).
3. Was this spending in line with budget forecasts for this 12 month period?
  - a. If not, please provide details of:
    - i. The extent that ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period;
    - ii. Details of on specific ICT contracts which resulted in department/organisation spending in excess of budget forecasts for this 12 month period;
    - iii. The reasons ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period.
4. Please provide details of any ICT projects that have been commissioned by the Department/organisation during the past 12 months that have failed to meet designated project time frames (ie have failed to satisfy agreed milestones by agreed dates).
  - a. For such projects that were not completed on schedule, please provide details of:
    - i. The extent of any delay;
    - ii. The reasons these projects were not completed on time;
    - iii. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department/organisation as a result of these delays (eg penalty payments).
5. Please provide details of any ICT projects delivered in the past 12 months that have materially failed to satisfy project specifications.

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6. Please provide details of any ICT projects that were abandoned by the Department/organisation within the last 12 months before the delivery of all project specifications outlined at the time the project was commissioned.

a. For such abandoned projects, please provide details of:

i. Any contractual remedies sought by the Department as a result of the abandonment of these projects.

ii. Any costs of re-tendering the ICT project.

**Answer:**

1. The total spend from 1 November 2004 to 1 November 2005 was \$165,000

2. Details:

Communications-outsourced \$57,000

Website costs-outsourced \$3,000

Other Subscriptions/maintenance/consumables \$48,000

Assets (Servers/PCs/monitors) \$57,000

Total \$165,000

3. Spending was in line with budget forecasts for the period.

4. All projects have met agreed milestones.

5. All projects have materially satisfied project specifications.

6. No ITC projects have been abandoned during the past twelve months.