Output 2.1

Question No. 39

Senator Ludwig tabled the following question:

Identity Security Pilot Programmes:

a) What is the budget measure for?

b) How much of the funding for the budget measure has been expended?

c) Could you indicate what equipment is to be procured under the funding for capital measures?

d) Could you indicate how much of the budget for the capital measure has been expended? Is the expenditure of the capital budget on target so far?

e) How much of the equipment has been procured so far?

f) How was the equipment procured? Under an open or closed tender?

g) Could you provide a breakdown of the additional appropriations and budget measures?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

a) The Australian Government allocated $5.9 million over two years to initiate the development of a national identity security strategy, including two pilot projects.

- The first project will pilot an online document verification service to check key documents presented for identification purposes to DIMA and DFAT.

- The second project will pilot measures to improve the accuracy of personal identity information held by the ATO about individual taxpayers.

b) See response to Question 34.

c) Centrelink procured IT communication equipment – routers, cables, GBICs, VPN bundles and interface cards for each end of two dedicated links.

d) The expenditure for the DVS is on target. There was no 'capital funding' allocated to Centrelink for the DVS. Centrelink was able to modify its existing funds composition to procure the above equipment. Neither of the links purchased for the DVS prototype are categorised as capital.

e) All equipment has been procured.

f) Procurement was undertaken using a closed tender approach. Centrelink has existing Preferred Supplier arrangements for IT communication equipment.

g) See response to Question 34.