



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2023-2024

Mr Mark Parton MLA (Chair), Ms Jo Clay MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Michael Pettersson MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS

Asked by Mr Cain on 31 July 2023: Ms Konti took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Uncorrected Hansard Transcript 31 July 2023 [PAGE 63]]

In relation to: Deloitte Business Case

MR CAIN: Indeed. So minister, you have covered some of this but I have got some pointed questions on the failed HRIMS project. So December last year you executed a contract with Deloitte costing \$214,000 supplemented with an additional \$88,000 bringing it to \$302,000, for a business case for future ACT government ICT systems. I am not sure if we have asked this or someone has, but are you able to table this document for this committee?

Mr Steel: I can take that on notice, I think, unless I leave it with you, Ms Konti, and you want to provide some more context to that contract.

Ms Konti: So we will take on notice whether we can table the business case. The work that Deloitte did in their review of the—their initial review of the HRI in this program resulted in a report that provided us advice about the kinds of things that we would need to look to improve when embarking on the next phase of this work. And that also helped us to—it delivered the starting point of the business case that was actually considered in this 23-24 budget, that led to the decision to pivot to upgrading the existing systems.

MR CAIN: So the \$214,000 contract, I think that executed on 17 December 2021, with a completion date of 18 February. But it was supplemented, as I mentioned, with an additional \$88,000, bringing it to \$302,000. Why did a contract only spanning two months require a cost variation of 41 per cent?

Ms Konti: I will have to take that on notice, Mr Cain.

Mr Chris Steel MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

The business cases associated with the HRIMS program and the decision to end it are cabinet-in-confidence.

Regarding the contract with Deloitte, I am advised that the scope of work under the original contract was to undertake a review of the HRIMS Program to identify learnings that the Territory should apply as part of a recommencement of the Program.

Once the review report was delivered, it was identified that the Program needed to undertake further assessment to understand in greater detail the usability of the technical work completed to date. This would give the ACT Government a complete understanding of time cost and approach needed to complete the HRIMS program.

Under the contract variation Deloitte provided the skills and expertise to assist the Territory to deliver a business case for consideration through the Budget process.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2023-2024

Signature:



Date:

15/8/23

By Special Minister of State, Chris Steel MLA