



STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Mr Ed Cocks MLA (Chair), Mr Michael Pettersson MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Andrew Braddock MLA

Inquiry into Auditor-General Performance Reports July – December 2023
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
23 May 2024

Asked by Mr Cain on 23 May 2024: Mr Stanton took on notice the following question(s):

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In relation to:

MR CAIN: And are you aware of who was the program manager for HRIMS, and I think this got touched on a bit earlier? Are you aware who the program manager was?

Mr Stanton: From the governance documentation and the management documentation that we have, I think we have got names of people that were involved in the project and the program.

MR CAIN: But who was the key responsible person?

Mr Stanton: We would have that in our material.

MR CAIN: So do you have that name at hand, or would you take that on notice?


Mr Stanton: We would take that on notice.

The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Effective governance arrangements for programs of this magnitude require a Program Sponsor. The role of the Program Sponsor for the HRIMS Program at its commencement in 2017 was undertaken by the then Under-Treasurer. Several people have held this role since 2017.

A significant conclusion of the audit was that 'every aspect of the HRIMS Program, including its planning, governance and administration and management arrangements, was characterised by multiple failures at all levels'. In this regard, it is reasonable to conclude that the responsible person would be the Director-General of the directorate responsible for delivering the program. This accords with subsection 31(1) of the *Financial Management Act 1996*, which identifies that 'the responsible director-general of a directorate is accountable to the responsible Minister of the directorate for the efficient and effective financial management of the public resources for which the directorate is responsible'.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature: 

Date: 31 May 2024

Michael Harris
ACT Auditor-General