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## Section 4: Other reporting requirements

### **4.1: PURCHASER-PROVIDER ARRANGEMENTS**

#### **Overview**

The department maintains a purchaser arrangement with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation and Cluster 3. In addition, the department provides common services, on a cost recovery basis, through its network of Indigenous Coordination Centres located across Australia. These services are provided to a number of mainstream agencies.

#### **Purchaser arrangements**

##### **DFAT & DIMIA Service Level Agreement**

###### ***Responsibility***

The Service Level Agreement (SLA) is an agreement between DIMIA and DFAT for the provision of management services by DFAT at DFAT-managed posts. For these services an agreed fee is charged. The SLA is intended to facilitate efficient and effective Australian Government business overseas by avoiding unnecessary duplication of common services at overseas posts.

###### ***Control arrangements***

The SLA details the management services, performance standards and cost recovery arrangements to be provided for the term of the agreement. Management services include personnel services (A based and locally engaged staff), office and property services and financial services. The agreement also contains a dispute resolution mechanism and a provision for reduced fees in the event that services are not provided to the agreed standard. In conjunction with the SLA, a separate ICT MOU agreement provides for IT and telecommunication services. Both the current agreements were signed in September 2004.

###### ***Resourcing***

The 2005-06 fee will be determined by the number of DIMIA staff overseas during the year and is expected to be approximately \$5.7 million. Of this, the DIMIA/DFAT ICT MOU is approximately \$3.7 million per annum.

###### ***Performance against outcomes and outputs***

The SLA enables the delivery of the department's outcomes through the efficient delivery of support services at overseas posts.

### **ASIO bilateral arrangement**

The Australian Security Intelligence Organisation provides advice to DIMIA in relation to the character requirements for temporary protection visas and further protection visas. This work is charged on a cost recovery basis under bilateral arrangements between ASIO and the department.

### **Provider arrangements**

#### **Cluster Support Unit**

##### ***Responsibility***

Cluster 3 comprises a group of Commonwealth Agencies first formed under an Agreement for Information Technology and Telecommunications (IT&T) Services and Industry Development with CSC dated 31 March 1998. The Agreement with CSC was extended for some Agencies in July 2003. The Cluster also has an Agreement for telecommunications services and industry development with Optus, dated 31 August 2001. In June 2004, some cluster agencies agreed to extend the Optus agreement until 30 June 2007. The role of the Cluster Support Unit (CSU) is to provide a central point of contact for Cluster 3 contract administration to ensure contractual consistency and integrity across agencies for both the CSC and Optus Agreements.

##### ***Control Arrangements***

The Cluster 3 Agencies are parties to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which establishes protocols of operation of the Cluster Agencies for dealing with the contractors and established the Cluster 3 Management Committee and CSU. The CSU is the administrative arm of the Management Committee and the central point of contact for Cluster 3 contract management.

##### ***Resourcing***

Each Cluster Agency contributes resources as agreed by the Management Committee, with DIMIA providing resourcing to the Cluster equal to one Executive Officer, as well as accommodation and corporate overhead costs for the CSU.

##### ***Performance against outcomes and outputs***

The CSU contributes to the Cluster Agencies' and Commonwealth objectives of IT&T infrastructure outsourcing by providing support to the Cluster 3 Management Committee and Cluster 3 agencies so that they can effectively discharge their contractual responsibilities.

##### ***Cluster agencies***

The Cluster Agencies are:

- DIMIA;
- Australian Electoral Commission;

- Department of Finance and Administration Electorate Offices System (Optus only);
- Geoscience Australia (Optus only);
- IP Australia;
- IPS Radio and Space Services (Optus only); and
- Former Finance bureau customers.

### **ICC Common Services Arrangement**

DIMIA, through the Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination, operates a network of Indigenous Coordination Centres (ICCs) throughout Australia. These centres provide the government with a vehicle to provide a coordinated and collaborative approach to the delivery of services to Indigenous people. The funding of these ICCs is managed in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding signed by all mainstream Commonwealth agencies involved in developing policy and delivering services to Indigenous Australians. Approximately \$18.0 million will be recovered by DIMIA in 2005-06 through this agreement.

## **4.2: COST RECOVERY ARRANGEMENTS**

Under the Commonwealth Cost Recovery Policy and guidelines, Commonwealth agencies are required to review their recovery arrangements and prepare a Cost Recovery Impact Statement (CRIS) for significant cost recovery arrangements. This requirement applies immediately to new and significantly amended cost recovery proposals. In addition, all significant existing cost recovery arrangements are to be reviewed periodically over a five-year period in accordance with the schedule approved by government. DIMIA's fees and charges are scheduled for review in 2006-07.

### **Summary of cost recovery impact statement**

DIMIA currently does not have a cost recovery impact statement.

## **4.3: AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT INDIGENOUS EXPENDITURE (AGIE)**

See Portfolio Table 1: Australian Government Indigenous Expenditure on page 13 for DIMIA's component of AGIE for the Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs Portfolio.