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Ministry of Health

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Memorandum: Accenture and Ernst Young information technology reports for the National Bowel Screening Programme RECEIVED

To:

Hon Dr David Clark, Minister of Health

2 1 DEC 2017

Office of Hon David Clark

## Purpose

You have requested copies of the Accenture and Ernst Young (EY) information technology (IT) reports. commissioned as part of the National Bowel Screening Programme (NBSP).

## Accenture Report

- The Ministry of Health (the Ministry) commissioned Accenture to undertake a rapid review:
  - of the business outcomes required for the NBSP
  - b. to assess whether the recommended IT delivery solution and approach was sound
  - to consider whether the NBSP could be successfully implemented.
- 2. The Accenture report was released to the Research Unit in the Leader of the Opposition's Office on 19 July 2017. The Ministry did not redact any information.
- 3. The Accenture Report was used as an assurance document, and to assess progress against the overall IT project's goals.

## Ernst Young (EY) Report

- The EY Report re-considered the options available to the Ministry in developing a fit for purpose IT screening solution.
- As a starting point, EY assessed whether the IT system developed to support the bowel screening 5. pilot could be developed into a national system.
- 6. Six options were considered, including whether to develop the IT within the Ministry, or whether there were readily available market options that could be customised.

## The IT pathway set in the 2016/17 compared to the procurement pathway as at December 2017

- In the 2016/17 NBSP Programme Business case, the IT assumptions were that the Ministry would 7. build a bespoke IT system. The money set aside as contingency in Budget 2016, was to be spent on the build.
- The Ministry commissioned both the Accenture Report and EY report as an assurance process to 8. ensure the best use of public funds. As a result of the additional assurance steps, which led to the decision to 'customise an off the shelf' (COTS) IT product; the development of the IT solution was amended.
- 9. It is necessary for an IT project of this size to meet the Government's procurement process. The Ministry had to develop a document requesting expressions of interest in developing an

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appropriate IT solution. This was, in effect, a testing of the market to gauge interest in the feasibility of COTS.

- 10. The procurement timetable for the population register has been extended. This is accommodate an increase in project scope in line with the Digital Health Strategy towards 2021, which will provide capacity and capability for other screening programmes in the future. (HR 20171535 refers).
- The expanded scope was agreed by the Ministry and Corporate Centre in July 2017, and reported in the July 2017 Major Projects Performance Report. In this report, it was noted that an expanded scope may lengthen the timeframe. (Treasury is likely to publically release the July 2017 report in 2018.)
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  If feet the feet th 12. Once a preferred vendor has been identified the Ministry aims to start work on the detailed design of the population register component of the NSS. The NBSP will contain a degree of uncertainty until the completion of the discovery and solution design phase. This will enable a more informed business case (fixed price, defined scope and implementation timetable) to be submitted to joint Ministers of Health and Finance in June 2018.

END.

