

MINUTE TO THE SECRETARY

To: Caroline Edwards
SUBJECT **COVID-19 Procurement**

Purpose

The Primary Care Division is seeking to invoke the human health protection exemption in the Commonwealth Procurement Rules to directly engage Aspen Medical to provide a range of services as part of the response to the Coronavirus outbreak:

Phase 1 - Project Planning, Risk Management and Preparedness to establish up to 3-5 GP Triage/ Respiratory Clinics established at initial GP clinics. To commence immediately.

Phase 2 - National Implementation of Respiratory Clinics across Australia including delivery of infection control training. Timing: Subject to Phase 1 Completion.

Phase 3 – Workforce Surge Capacity. Timing: Likely timeframe to commence in 3 – 4 weeks.

Timing

A risk management workshop is planned for 5pm on Tuesday 10 March 2020 and Aspen would like to have a signed contract in place before that takes place. The financial commitment will only be for Phase 1 and Simon Cotterell, FAS Primary Care Division will exercise the necessary delegations.

Issues/Sensitivities

Exemption under paragraph 2.6 of the Commonwealth Procurement Rules (CPRs)

2.6 These CPRs do not apply to the extent that an *official* applies measures determined by their *Accountable Authority* to be necessary for the maintenance or restoration of international peace and security, to protect human health, for the protection of essential security interests, or to protect national treasures of artistic, historic or archaeological value

The Measures relating to the procurement which require departure from the CPRs are

Phase 1 - Project Planning, Risk Management and Preparedness to establish up to 3-5 GP Triage/ Respiratory Clinics established at initial GP clinics.

Phase 2 - National Implementation of Respiratory Clinics across Australia. Timing: Subject to Phase 1 Completion.

Phase 3 – Workforce Surge Capacity. Timing: Likely timeframe to commence in 3 – 4 weeks.

Consultation

The Department has consulted with Legal Services and Procurement Services.

Recommendation

The Primary Care Division is seeking your approval to:

1. Direct procure Aspen Medical to undertake the services described above, relying on the human health protection exemption from the Commonwealth procurement rules

Approved / Not Approved / Please Discuss / Noted

s47F

Caroline Edwards

10 / 03 / 20

Copy to:

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Cleared by:

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