

Minister spends \$4m on IT testing

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TREASURER Gladys Berejiklian spent \$4 million over three months — about \$50,000 a day — to analyse a new computer system not expected to be rolled out until 2017.

The massive cost of consultants to check on the new IT system comes only months after it was revealed Education Minister Adrian Piccoli oversaw a cost blowout of the failed LMBR IT system to a projected cost of \$1 billion, and Transport for NSW had a blowout of \$50 million for its new IT system.

Opposition Wastewatch Committee spokesman Steve Kamper said the payment to Price Waterhouse Coopers to analyse the new Prime IT system is a waste of public money.

"If we can't trust Gladys to implement an IT system without wasting millions of dollars, how can we trust her with the state's budget?" Mr Kamper said.

Ms Berejiklian said the updated IT system would support a "world-class financial management framework for NSW".

She said the company had passed a "rigorous" tender process and offered the best value for money for taxpayers.

"NSW has not fundamentally changed its approach to financial management for more than 30 years and reform is well overdue," she said.

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