

**Economics Legislation Committee**  
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Industry Portfolio  
Additional Budget Estimates Hearing 2013-14  
27 February 2013

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** CSIRO

**TOPIC:** Bullying Investigation

**REFERENCE:** Question on Notice (Hansard, 27 February 2014, pages 19-20)

**QUESTION No.:** AI-5

**Senator WRIGHT:** I have some questions regarding the Pearce investigation of bullying, the independent investigation into allegations of workplace bullying, conducted by Professor Dennis Pearce. To date, what is the total amount that has been spent—and I am not sure whether it would be from the CSIRO budget or additional funds from the federal government—on having that investigation take place?

**Ms Hazel Bennett:** Senator, if I may just confirm: in terms of the budget, it is from CSIRO's budget.

**Senator WRIGHT:** Thank you. And what is the total amount to date that has been expended on that investigation?

**Ms Hazel Bennett:** I would have to take that on notice. We do not have the information with us.

**Senator WRIGHT:** All right. Are there any further costs associated with that investigation that will be incurred—ongoing, from now?

**Ms Hazel Bennett:** Can I just clarify. Any additional costs as part of that investigation—but then you said 'ongoing'. Could you clarify?

**Senator WRIGHT:** My understanding is that the report was handed down in August 2013, but I am not sure whether or not that was the end of the expenditure. So I am asking, essentially, for: what has been paid to today's date? But also: are there likely to be ongoing costs incurred as a result of that investigation?

**Ms Hazel Bennett:** Yes, there are two phases of work. Thank you for clarifying, and I can get that information to you on notice.

**ANSWER**

As at 18 February 2014 and for the period commencing February 2013, CSIRO has been invoiced by HWLE (who are managing the Independent Investigation process) for costs for professional fees and disbursements of \$3,738,500 (GST inclusive).

The Independent Investigation includes the delivery of a further General Findings Report which is anticipated to be completed in April 2014 and there will be further costs in addition to those above.