

Joint Select Committee on Trade and Investment Growth
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Thursday, 25 February 2016

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: Industry, Innovation and Science

TOPIC: Funding for National Innovation and Science Agenda

QUESTION:

Mr Conroy asked:

- (i) How much new money was committed by the government as part of the National Innovation and Science Agenda released in December 2015?
- (ii) How much is budget expenditure and how much is equity investment?

ANSWER

The National Innovation and Science Agenda package builds on existing measures in place. The total additional funding from measures in the package is \$1.1 billion over the period 2015-16 to 2018-19.

In addition to this, the package also includes \$283 million in equity funding over the same period. This includes \$250 million for the Biomedical Translation Fund, redirected from the Medical Research Future Fund and \$30 million of new equity funding for the CSIRO Innovation Fund.

TOPIC: Advertising campaign for National Innovation and Science Agenda

QUESTION:

Mr Conroy asked:

Did the department seek advice from the Department of Finance about whether the inclusion of the phrase “There’s never been a more exciting time to be an Australian” is consistent with principle 3 of the advertising guidelines?

ANSWER

The phrase “There’s never been a more exciting time to be Australian” is not used in any paid media placement for the National Innovation and Science Agenda campaign.

Consistent with the whole-of-government process, the National Innovation and Science Agenda Campaign was considered by the Independent Communications Committee, which concluded that the campaign is capable of complying with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by non-corporate Commonwealth entities.