

**Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio  
2015-16 Additional Budget Estimates  
11 February 2016

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**AGENCY:** CSIRO

**TOPIC:** Mr Adrian Turner as CEO of Data61

**REFERENCE:** Written question - Senator Carr

**QUESTION No.:** AI-145

Please describe in detail the process for appointing Mr Adrian Turner as CEO of Data61, including a timeline for the process. Was the then Minister or his office consulted about this appointment? If so, when?

**ANSWER**

The recruitment of the CEO of the new NICTA/CSIRO combined entity (now Data61) commenced in December 2014. Seven applicants were interviewed and one was deemed appointable but withdrew their application. CSIRO approached the Executive Search firm Allen and York, who then identified Mr Adrian Turner and one other external candidate. Both candidates were interviewed on 16 April 2015 by a panel comprised of senior executives from CSIRO, Members from the NICTA Board and external stakeholders. Mr Turner was identified as the most suitable candidate for the role. Following referee checking Mr Turner was recommended as the appointable candidate to Dr Larry Marshall, CSIRO Chief Executive and the appointment was approved.

The Ministers office was not consulted on the appointment. Business Unit Director appointments are not subject to Ministerial notification or review processes.