

**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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**DEPARTMENT:** DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

**TOPIC:** Terms of reference

**REFERENCE:** Question on Notice (Hansard, 10 February 2016, page 6 )

**QUESTION No.:** AI-2

Senator KIM CARR: Dr Finkel, you have had papers presented to you from this task force to guide your work?

Dr Finkel : We had a number of papers that were all in draft form and nowhere near being complete. I would think of them as highly appropriate thought starters which were to some extent summarising the state of the current incentive scheme, giving some advice on the previous schemes that had been done and anticipating some survey work that there has been in the last year by a consulting company. Those quite appropriately helped us in our initial discussions. But I can assure you that the chairpersons—that is, John Fraser, Bill Ferris and I—certainly managed the direction of the issues paper that is evolving.

Senator KIM CARR: Would you expect it to be making recommendations or to be making findings?

Dr Finkel : I do not know exactly, and I am sure that there is a subtlety there. We do not have definitive terms of reference that specify that. Perhaps one of my colleagues would know.

Senator KIM CARR: Are you able to tell me what the terms of reference are?

Dr Finkel : There are no published terms of reference, so I cannot at the moment, but I will look into—

Senator KIM CARR: Are there terms of reference?

Senator Cormann: We will take it on notice—

Dr Finkel : I would rather take it on notice.

Senator Cormann: to assist you on this.

Senator KIM CARR: There are terms of reference? That is the question I have asked you.

Dr Finkel : In development.

Senator KIM CARR: Not yet?

Senator Cormann: In development.

Senator KIM CARR: But 'in development' is not yet.

Senator Cormann: 'In development' is self-explanatory—

## **ANSWER**

A Scope of Review document can be found on the Review webpage on business.gov.au.

<http://www.business.gov.au/grants-and-assistance/innovation-rd/rd-taxincentive/pages/randd-tax-incentive-review.aspx>