

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio
2016 - 2017 Additional Estimates
2 March 2017

DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: R&D tax review

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 2 March 2017, page 88-89)

QUESTION No.: AI-28

Senator KIM CARR: Let us take the R&D tax review, since Mr Fraser is one of the authors of the report. Will this group now have responsibility for that?

Senator Sinodinos: The Treasury group?

Senator KIM CARR: Yes.

Senator Sinodinos: No; because it involves taxation it is a joint matter between my portfolio and the Treasury portfolio.

Senator KIM CARR: So who will have responsibility for the implementation of the review?

Ms Beauchamp: It will be a government review, and we will work closely with the Treasury and, indeed, other agencies to advise the government in terms of a response.

Senator KIM CARR: Will you have officers actually seconded to the unit?

Ms Beauchamp: I have not looked at it yet, but I think it would be a great idea if we could have secondments both ways between the Treasury and us. And we have done that in a couple of areas in the past.

Senator KIM CARR: Could you take that on notice.

Ms Beauchamp: Yes.

ANSWER

An interdepartmental unit was established to support the Review Panel which undertook the Review of the R&D Tax Incentive (the Review) comprising officers from the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science (DIIS), the Treasury and the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

As the Government has not yet decided how it will respond to the Review, DIIS is not able to forecast the scope of work required to implement the Government's response. A decision on whether to second staff from other agencies cannot be made until the elements of the response are known. DIIS is committed to ensuring the right resources and knowledge are made available to implement the Government's response.