

QoN Number	Question Submitted By	Group Responsible	Subject	Full Question Text	Spoken/Written (Spoken - Proof Hansard)	Question Date
BI-1	Ketter, Chris	Corporate	Advertising	<p>Senator KETTER: Okay, so how much funding is earmarked for advertising? Mr Schwager: The total commitment at the moment for this campaign is about \$11 million—just over \$11 million. I would also just caveat that, that \$8.1 million of that is a media buy. As I mentioned before, a media buy is a fairly flexible commitment. Senator KETTER: Could you give me the breakdown of the \$8.1 million? What forms of advertising are we talking about? Ms Cook: We can give you a breakdown of components of that buy, which is an advertising media buy: advertising production costs, market research and Indigenous and culturally and linguistically diverse audience consultants. But I think we would have to take the breakdown on notice. Senator KETTER: Okay. So you are not able to tell me what proportion of it is devoted to TV, radio et cetera? Ms Cook: At the moment I think I would have to take that on notice. Senator KETTER: Can you tell me about the balance of the \$11 million? You have \$8.1 million, which is your media buy, and the remaining funding allocated was \$11 million in total. Ms Cook: Some of the committed costs at the moment would be: research services, evaluation, market research, creative services, media buy et cetera. Senator KETTER: Is advertising scheduled to commence through the coming election period? Ms Cook: The advertising for the campaign began on 17 April. But again, as I said before, we would take advice with any of these campaigns by following the process that the Department of Finance runs. We would follow that.</p>	Spoken, pp. 91-92.	6/05/2016 0:00
BI-2	Ketter, Chris	Anti-Dumping Commission	Anti-Dumping Reforms	<p>Senator KETTER: On 18 February, Minister Pyne issued a press release stating that the government had initiated the second stage of its antidumping reforms, which included asking the Anti-Dumping Commission to report on the impact of Asian steelmakers on the Australian market. During the Senate inquiry on the steel industry, the Anti-Dumping Commissioner told the committee that the report was given to the minister on 4 April. Is that correct? Mr Seymour: Yes, that is correct. Senator KETTER: If that is the case, I note that the minister has had the report for over a month. When will it be released? Mr Lawson: That is a matter for the minister. We have been conducting consultations with industry since the report was provided to the minister. Senator KETTER: Right. In relation to the International Trade Remedies Forum, under the Customs Act this group is required to meet twice a year. Is that correct? Mr Seymour: That is correct. Senator KETTER: And when did the forum last meet? Mr Seymour: In December of last year. Senator KETTER: How many times has the forum met since the last election? Mr Seymour: From memory, I am going to say three times, but I would like to go back and check the record to ensure that I am correct in that. Senator KETTER: That obviously is at odds with the statutory requirement—is that correct? Mr Seymour: The Customs Act requires that the forum meet twice each calendar year. Ms Beauchamp: If I could add to that. The government held two meetings of the forum in 2015—17 August and 2 December. Senator KETTER: And in 2014? Ms Beauchamp: As the commissioner has said, we would have to look back that far. Senator KETTER: You do not believe that they did meet? Ms Beauchamp: I am not sure. I would have to have a look. Senator KETTER: The commissioner has indicated that potentially there have been three meetings since September 2013. Ms Beauchamp, are you able to tell us how this situation might be rectified? Ms Beauchamp: I do not know if there is a position to be rectified. As the commissioner has said, the last meeting was in December and the next one is to be scheduled. Senator KETTER: The commissioner has told us that, to the best of his recollection, there could have been three. Senator Canavan: We have taken that on notice. We will get that information to you.</p>	Spoken, p.92.	6/05/2016 0:00
BI-3	Ketter, Chris	Sectorial Growth Policy	Arrium the only steel provider	<p>Senator KETTER: To the best of your knowledge, is Arrium the only steel provider for the Tarcoola rail project, or will there be other suppliers? Mr Ryan: It would be too early to tell you, I would say, Senator. Senator KETTER: When would we be able to find out? Mr Ryan: I cannot answer that. I would have to get information from the infrastructure department and I would have to take that on notice. Senator KETTER: Is there anybody else, Ms Beauchamp, who might be able— Senator Canavan: Other officials can correct me, but my understanding is that that project is being managed by the Australian Rail Track Corporation, which sits under the Department of Infrastructure and Transport—and I think the shareholding minister is with the Department of Finance. I do not know if officials here would have detailed knowledge, but they could take questions on notice.</p>	Spoken, pp. 93-94.	6/05/2016 0:00
BI-4	Ketter, Chris	Digital Strategy and Operations	Revamp of business.gov.au	<p>Senator KETTER: How much has this revamp cost? Ms Butler: I do not think I have the precise figures with me. I would have to take that on notice. The redevelopment of the business.gov.au website is part of the Single Business Service program of work, which is a series of 24 projects designed to build capability within the department. It is bundled up in that package of funding, which is available over four years. Ms Weston: In the 2014-15 budget there was \$92.4 million over four years allocated for this Single Business Service body of work, which includes the new revamped business.gov.au website. Senator KETTER: Questions were asked in estimates at the time and we were told that the upgrade at that time was \$540,000. Ms Beauchamp: Yes. Ms Weston: There have been a number of phases. Initially, when the Single Business Service program of work started, there was an upgrade of the website to bring together other websites into the business.gov.au website. For instance, CRC program website and some of the other websites came together. So that was the \$540,000 worth of work that you are referring to. This is a further revamp of that business.gov.au website. It does reflect that since that time we have also had the Digital Transformation Agenda work and we have been working closely with the Digital Transformation Office. Ms Butler: To follow on from that, the upgrade last financial year was to upgrade the business.gov.au website which had not been upgraded in the last four years. That contained an upgrade to accommodate that plus five other websites were consolidated down into the business.gov.au we have today. As of Monday, we will undertake a further redevelopment and will have more features available on the new website. As I said, we have been rolling those features out; they have been made available on a beta website for people to view before we actually stomp up the live version. There has been lots of feedback on the usability of this particular new version of the website. Senator KETTER: We were told on 3 June 2014 that the \$540,000 was to bring the websites of Commercialisation Australia, Enterprise Connect, AusIndustry, the Cooperative Research Centres and Skills Connect together into the business.gov.au digital presence. Ms Butler: Correct. That is done and completed, and that is the website that you have as of today. They were all brought together under business.gov.au, which was also itself refreshed at the time. Senator KETTER: When was the first stage of the upgrade finished? Ms Butler: The first stage of that upgrade was completed on 1 July 2015. Senator KETTER: Was that \$540,000 fully allocated to that first stage? Ms Butler: Correct. Senator KETTER: Now there is a subsequent upgrade, but you are not able to give me a cost breakdown for the next stage. Ms Butler: I am sorry, I just do not have that figure. It is incorporated into a larger figure which relates to 24 associated projects. I would have to take that on notice.</p>	Spoken, pp.100-101.	6/05/2016 0:00
BI-5	Ketter, Chris	Digital Strategy and Operations	AusTender	<p>Senator KETTER: Was there a tender process through AusTender? Ms Butler: Yes, there would have been various contracts for individuals which would have been displayed on AusTender. Senator KETTER: Can you provide the AusTender reference number, please? Ms Weston: We will have a look for that, for you, and try to give it to you.</p>	Spoken, p. 101.	6/05/2016 0:00

BI-6	Ketter, Chris	AusIndustry Business Services	Accelerating commercialisation	<p>Senator KETTER: While copies are being made, perhaps I could continue with my questions. Could you explain how applications are assessed and are there different stages in the assessment process? Ms Morris: When an application is received, it goes through an expression-of-interest process. A commercialisation adviser assists through that process. The matter, then, goes to the entrepreneurs committee, which is a board. An assessment is performed by the committee using a range of metrics. Then, the applicant is advised whether or not they have been successful or unsuccessful. Senator KETTER: Is the Innovation Australia board's R&D Incentives Committee responsible for assessing applications? Ms Morris: No, it is the Entrepreneurs' Program Committee, which is a subcommittee of Innovation Australia. Senator KETTER: So there is a subcommittee of Innovation Australia. Ms Morris: That is correct. Senator KETTER: What is involved in that assessment process they conduct? Ms Morris: They have a range of merit criteria, which I do not have with me. I would have to take that on notice, I am afraid. Senator KETTER: This letter tells us that the application was not competitive enough when compared with other applications under consideration. Ms Morris: The program is highly competitive. Senator KETTER: Can I ask how many applications were received? Ms Morris: I do not have that number with me. I would have to take that on notice.</p>	Spoken, p. 102.	6/05/2016 0:00
BI-7	Ketter, Chris	Portfolio Strategic Policy	R&D tax incentive	<p>Senator KETTER: My question relates to the impact of the changes in the corporate tax rate on the R&D tax incentive, and that should be something that this department should be able to provide a response on. Ms Beauchamp: Whilst we might have an opinion and could probably offer some information in terms of the numbers, I think they are definitely questions for the Treasury. Senator Canavan: I think the key thing here is that your question goes to the interaction between a program administered by the department, the R&D tax incentive, and another revenue source, corporate tax, which the department does not have responsibility for, so the best place would be the Treasury department, I think. But the officials can help out as best they can, keeping in mind that we want to make sure that any answers we provide are true and accurate. CHAIR: I am not trying to be difficult, Senator Ketter, but it would seem reasonable to me. Whack them on notice, mate. Senator KETTER: I have already asked the questions of Treasury, but I was interested in this department's view on that issue. Senator Canavan: That is probably even more reason for the department officials to consult first before answering, because corporate tax is not their area, so I am sure they would like to. If they are going to form views, they will ask the other officials first. Senator KETTER: All right.</p>	Spoken, pp. 103-104.	6/05/2016 0:00
BI-8	Ketter, Chris	AUSI - Business Services	CRCP applications	<p>Senator KETTER: All right. I will move to the CRC funding round. We had the most recent CRC call for applications announced on 1 February and closed in March. I understand from the CRC Association Newsletter that the new CRC projects category was quite well received. I think there were 91 applications. Is that correct? Mr Stirling: There were 92 applications. Senator KETTER: Can you tell us what the average funding request was for the CRCs? Mr Stirling: I do not have the average on me—I would have to take that on notice—but, to give you an indication, the requests for grants ranged between \$90,000 and \$3 million. Senator KETTER: If you could take that on notice, please. What proportion of the CRCP applications sought funding for the maximum three year period? Mr Stirling: Again I would have to take that on notice. I do not have that with me. It was a number. Senator KETTER: What is the total funding amount sought by the CRCP applications? Mr Stirling: I will have to take that on notice. I do not have the total funding sought.</p>	Spoken, p. 104.	6/05/2016 0:00
BI-9	Ketter, Chris	CSIRO	Oceans and Atmosphere Advisory	<p>Senator KETTER: Can you tell me the name of that advisory? Mr Roy: It is unusually named like Oceans and Atmosphere 'flagship' or 'strategic advisory committee'; they are generic across each one of our major business units. Their key role is to support and advise the business unit leader—in that case, Dr Ken Lee—on strategic matters, act as advocates externally for the business unit and act as ambassadors for the business unit. It is a fairly broad-reaching role. It is not a governance role; it is, however, an advisory role. Senator KETTER: It is called the Oceans and Atmosphere advisory committee? Mr Roy: It would be the strategic advisory committee, I think. That is representative of the name. Senator KETTER: I am just trying to get the name right. Mr Roy: The name of the business unit is Oceans and Atmosphere, and then they have a strategic advisory committee supporting them. Senator KETTER: Can you tell me who is on that committee? Mr Roy: Not off the top of my head, but I can take that on notice. It may even be on our website. Senator KETTER: Okay. When were those members of the committee appointed? Mr Roy: Again, I would have to take the appointment of those members on notice, but I can say that we have had a strategic advisory committee, previously known as the flagship advisory committee, for that flagship or business unit since 2003.</p>	Spoken, p.105.	6/05/2016 0:00
BI-10	Ketter, Chris	CSIRO	Advice provided by advisory com	<p>Senator KETTER: Does this strategic advisory committee provide advice to any other research units? Mr Roy: As a committee itself, their primary role is providing advice to the director of the business unit, if that is the case. Senator KETTER: Of Oceans and Atmosphere? Mr Roy: I just underline that I am giving generic answers, specifically when the agriculture or the oceans and atmosphere or the land and water business unit last met, I would need to take that on notice. I cannot provide you categorical advice on that this evening. What I have mentioned is that they generally sit a couple of times a year. That is how it would normally happen. But in the specifics of O&A, I do not have those details with me this evening. I would need to take that on notice.</p>	Spoken, p. 106.	6/05/2016 0:00