

**Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio  
2016-17 Supplementary Budget Estimates  
20 October 2016

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**AGENCY:** CSIRO

**TOPIC:** Science Prioritisation and Implementation Process Review

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Carr

**QUESTION No.:** SI-94

In reference to the Ernst & Young Science Prioritisation and Implementation Process Review:

1. On what date was this review commissioned?
2. Can you explain your reasoning behind ordering this review?
3. What were the terms of reference for the review?
4. What was the process to award the tender to perform this review?
5. How many firms tendered to undertake the review?
6. On what grounds did you decide on Ernst & Young to undertake the work?
7. How much did this review cost? What was the contract value? And what is the amount acquitted?
8. Where did this funding come from?

**ANSWER**

1. The review commenced on 16 May 2016.
2. CSIRO strives for continuous improvement and this review of the 2015-16 science planning, including the investment decision-making and associated processes, was undertaken with this intent.
3. The Terms of Reference are attached.
4. The procurement process was undertaken via a Request for Quote under a Standing Offer, and was released on 6 May 2016.
5. Four companies were approached and two responded.
6. The Evaluation Panel rated EY as the preferred tenderer on the evaluation criteria, which were:
  - a. Strong expertise in governance and risk management, particularly within a Government environment.
  - b. A demonstrated track record in developing and applying complex resource prioritisation across a portfolio of multiple objectives operating on different time outcomes (i.e. similarities to a science and innovation investment processes).
  - c. Expertise in government relations, communications and stakeholder engagement.
  - d. Value for Money.
7. The total contract value was \$465,000 excl. GST. The contract has been fully acquitted.
8. CSIRO's corporate operating budget.