

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017

Outcome: Higher Education Research and International

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000999

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing.

CEO Appointment for ARC

Question

1. When did the formal process commence to find a replacement for Professor Byrne?
2. Please advise any changes to the ARC CEO position description, selection criteria and other documentation relating to the position since the previous search (i.e. the one leading to Professor Byrne's appointment). Please supply a copy of these documents.
3. Who authorised the final form of these documents?
4. Please outline all steps involved in the appointment process, end to end.
5. And at which stage is the process up to presently?
6. Have any outside agencies been retained to conduct or assist with this search?
 - a. If so, which one/s?
 - b. What is the cost of this work?
7. Is this an international search?
8. Please outline any benchmarking conducted to ensure this is an internationally competitive position, to attract the best talent.
 - a. Has outside assistance been used to conduct this benchmarking?
 - b. If so, by whom?
 - c. At what cost?

Answer

1. The formal process commenced with a brief to Senator the Hon Simon Birmingham, Minister for Education and Training on 27 July 2016 about the appointment process.
2. The previous recruitment process was undertaken by the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science (DIIS) in 2012. The position description and selection criteria have not changed since then. The functions of the CEO are set out in the *Australian Research Council Act 2001*. Copies of the previous (2012) and current (2016) CEO Information Packs are attached.
3. The then acting Deputy Secretary, Department of Education and Training authorised the final form of the current documents.

4. The steps involved in the appointment process include the following:

Activity	Key dates
A brief to the Minister seeking approval for the process to appoint a new CEO to the ARC	27 July 2016
Development of an information pack for applicants	August 2016
Position advertised for one month	September-October 2016
Interviews to be conducted and referees checked	December 2016
Panel to report and recommend a candidate	Early January 2017
Government consideration of Minister's recommendation	TBA
Announcement of new CEO to ARC	TBA

5. Applications closed 14 October 2016 and are being assessed.

6. Yes

- a) Heidrick & Struggles have been retained to conduct the search.
- b) \$78,980.00 (GST incl.).

7. Yes.

8. No specific benchmarking projects have been conducted.