Economics Legislation Committee ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio Additional Estimates Hearing 2012-13 13 February 2013

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, SCIENCE RESEARCH AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

TOPIC Research Workforce Strategy

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Mason

QUESTION No.: AI-85

What work has been completed so far by the Research Workforce Strategic Advisory Group and the Research Training Quality Working Group in implementing the government's Research Workforce Strategy?

ANSWER

The Research Workforce Strategic Advisory Group has agreed to a work plan for implementing the Research Workforce Strategy (RWS) that focusses initially on research training quality issues and a review of research training arrangements that is expected to be undertaken this year. This work aligns with RWS priorities 4.1- Review of the Government's primary research support program, the RTS and 4.4 – Establishment and monitoring of research standards and quality benchmarks for research training.

The Research Training Quality Working Group provided advice on the development of the consultation paper on research training quality *Defining Quality for Research Training in Australia*. The department has provided advice to the Higher Education Standards Panel on research training quality as part of its review of research training standards.