

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio  
Budget Estimates Hearing 2010-11  
31 May 2010

---

**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

**TOPIC:** Programs to Enhance the 'Book' Industry

**REFERENCE:** Question on Notice (Hansard 31 May 2010, E63)

**QUESTION No.:** BI-23

**Senator IAN MACDONALD** – Sorry, Minister, but I was confining it to books. I was wanting to know, on notice—I do not expect your department to have all this at their fingertips—in relation to books, what programs, paid for in the current budget, which is why it is relevant to estimates, does your department or the government have to enhance the 'book' industry at the present time. If you could give me a list of the different programs.

**Senator CARR** – We will come back to you.

**ANSWER**

The Book Industry Strategy Group (the Group) has twelve months from 1 June 2010 to deliver its report to government. The Group's terms of reference require the Group to engage with other Australian Government agencies to identify how existing Commonwealth programs and activities can be refocused to support the book industry's adaptation to new technologies. It is expected that this will involve a comprehensive study and appraisal of existing Commonwealth programs to identify the programs and activities that can be adapted to include the book industry.

The Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research has a wide range of programs that support industry generally including the book industry. The current operations of these programs are funded from the current budget. The programs include –

**Enterprise Connect:** provides access for manufacturers to quality advice, technology and research for small and medium enterprises. Further information can be obtained from [www.enterpriseconnect.gov.au](http://www.enterpriseconnect.gov.au).

**AusIndustry:** delivers a number of programs and services designed to encourage research and development and to commercialise innovative products. Further information can be obtained from [www.ausindustry.gov.au](http://www.ausindustry.gov.au).

**Commercialisation**

**Australia:** boosts early stage commercialisation to help innovative companies, researchers and entrepreneurs turn ideas into commercial reality. Further information can be obtained from [www.commercialisationaustralia.gov.au](http://www.commercialisationaustralia.gov.au).

**Small Business  
Support Line:**

assists small business to better manage the impacts of the global recession on their businesses by providing initial advice and referral services.

Further information can be obtained from

[www.ausindustry.gov.au/SmallBusiness/SBSL/Pages/SmallBusinessSupportLine.aspx](http://www.ausindustry.gov.au/SmallBusiness/SBSL/Pages/SmallBusinessSupportLine.aspx).

**Other portfolios**

The Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts administers the Public Lending Rights and Educational Lending Rights programs. The objectives of these programs are to make payments to Australian creators and publishers on the basis that income is lost from the availability of their books in educational lending libraries and public lending libraries, and to support the enrichment of Australian culture by encouraging the growth and development of Australian writing and publishing.