

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio
Budget Estimates Hearing 2011-12
30 May 2011

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

TOPIC: 2011-12 Budget funding

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Colbeck

QUESTION No.: BI-72

- 1) Where will the extra 96 staff noted in the Budget papers be deployed in the Department? And how and where will the recent changes the Government has made to the efficiency dividend be absorbed across the portfolio?
- 2) What is the Department's calculation of how much in additional funding was provided to innovation programs in this year's Budget? How is this figure derived, and does it include cuts to any measures – such as, for example, the Green Car Innovation Fund?
- 3) What is the Department's calculation of how much in additional funding was provided to science programs in this year's Budget? How is this figure derived?
- 4) What is the Department's calculation of how much in additional funding was provided to industry programs in this year's Budget? How is this figure derived?
- 5) What is the Department's calculation of how much in additional funding was provided to research programs in this year's Budget? How is this figure derived?
- 6) Is 'increased employment' specifically listed either directly or indirectly as one of the criteria to be considered when assessing grant applications for any programs administered by the Department? If so, which one(s)

ANSWER

- 1) The Budget papers show an overall increase of 98 in average staffing levels (ASL) for the Innovation portfolio. Of this figure there is an estimated increase of 35 ASL for the department which largely relates to the National Trade Measurement (NTM) recruiting to its full capacity and the impact of new Budget measures taking effect from 1 July 2011.

In relation to the impact of the changes to the efficiency dividend, refer to responses provided for question number BI-45.

- 2) There was a net reduction in the department's funding of \$467.6 million for innovation programs in the 2011-12 Budget. This figure is derived from new Budget measures outlined in Table 1.2 of the 2011-12 Portfolio Budget Statements (PBS) for Program 1.2 – Innovative Industry which includes election commitments and savings associated with the Natural Disaster Recovery and Rebuilding package.

- 3) There was a net reduction in the department's funding of \$50.4 million for science programs in the 2011-12 Budget. This figure is derived from new measures outlined in Table 1.2 of the 2011-12 PBS for Program 2.2 – Science and Research Capacity which includes election commitments and savings associated with the Natural Disaster Recovery and Rebuilding package.
- 4) There was a net reduction in the department's funding of \$50.5 million for industry programs in the 2011-12 Budget. This figure is derived from new measures outlined in Table 1.2 of the 2011-12 PBS for Program 1.1 – Industry Development and Investment which includes election commitments and savings associated with the Natural Disaster Recovery and Rebuilding package.
- 5) There was no additional funding from Budget measures for Program 2.1 – Investment in Higher Education Research in the 2011-12 Budget.
- 6) Increased employment is a direct criteria that is used to assess applications for funding under the department's structural adjustment funds. The department currently has one active structural adjustment fund, the South East South Australian Innovation and Investment Fund.