

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: All
Output Group: All

DEST Question No. E272_05

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question:

Please provide details about any changes in the last year to structures and lines of responsibility for the various programs, sub-programs and functions of the department, and about any departmental restructuring.

Answer:

DEST Departmental Restructuring

Over the last year the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) had a number of changes to the organisation structure and these are detailed below. The 2004-2005 Outcome structure is the same as 2003-2004.

1 July 2003

- Qwestacon joined the Department.

21 July 2003

- The Indigenous and Transitions Group was formed. The Group was made up of two former Indigenous Group Branches and the Enterprise and Career Education Branch. The Enterprise and Career Education Branch is now called Transitions Branch.
- The following table lists the programmes that are now the responsibility of the Indigenous and Transitions Group.

Programme	Group/organisation formerly responsible for the programme
Indigenous Education Strategic Initiatives	Schools
Indigenous Education Direct Assistance	Schools
Careers, Transitions and Partnerships	Schools and ECEF
ABSTUDY	Schools
ABSTUDY Student Financial Supplement Scheme	Schools
Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council	Higher Education
Indigenous Staff Scholarships	Higher Education

- The new role of Indigenous Education Leader was created to report and represent the Department on matters dealing with Indigenous leadership.
- Corporate Strategy Group was restructured which involved a number of changes:
 - Parliamentary Section transferred in from Parliamentary, Assurance and Legal Group and merged with Communications to form the Parliamentary and Communications Branch.

- The corporate contracts role was transferred from Finance Branch to Parliamentary, Assurance and Legal Group. The Facilities role stayed within Corporate Strategy Group and the remainder of Finance Branch became a stand alone Branch reporting directly to the Deputy Secretary.
- Parliamentary, Assurance and Legal Group was renamed Procurement, Assurance and Legal Group.

6 October 2003

- A reorganisation of Information Services Group took place to strengthen the top-level structure given the changing complexity, the growth of DEST's IT systems and the in-sourcing of IT infrastructure functions from Department of Employment and Workplace Relations. A Group Manager position was created and the existing Branch and Section structure was reorganised.

12 January 2004

- Innovation and Research Systems Group was established with responsibility for progressing the Department's involvement in the research and innovation agenda. The Group comprises the Innovation and Research Branch from Higher Education Group and the Research Systems Branch which was formed from new sections and sections previously located in the Research, Analysis and Evaluation Group.
- The following table lists the programmes that are now the responsibility of the Innovation and Research Systems Group.

Programme	Group formerly responsible for the programme
Framework for Open Learning	Higher Education
Grants for Learned Academies	Higher Education
Grants-in-Aid – Educational and Research Associations	Higher Education
Anglo-Australian Telescope Board	Higher Education
Research Training Scheme	Higher Education
Australian Postgraduate Awards Scheme	Higher Education
Institutional Grants Scheme	Higher Education
System Infrastructure Programme	Higher Education
Research Infrastructure Block Grants	Higher Education
Collaborative Research and Infrastructure	New programme from 2005-2006

- Research, Analysis and Evaluation Group as it was previously known was renamed Strategic Analysis and Evaluation Group.