

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio
2015-16 Additional Budget Estimates
11 February 2016

DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: Ministerial Responsibilities

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Carr

QUESTION No.: AI-122

9. The Department's response to question on notice SI-21 about ministerial responsibilities states that:

- Assistant Minister Roy assists Minister Pyne on matters related to innovation policy and IP
- Assistant Minister Andrews assists Minister Pyne on matters related to science.

This is a response to a question taken on notice from the estimates hearing, during which I requested a breakdown of all the policy areas and program areas listed on the Department's organisational chart, outlining how they report to the various Ministers. Given SI-21 does not answer that question, can you please provide a detailed breakdown of all the policy and program areas listed on the Department's organisational chart, outlining how they report to the Minister and Assistant Ministers in this portfolio.

ANSWER

The divisions of the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science work together through the department's executive to ensure all ministers in the portfolio are well supported. It should be noted that the two Cabinet ministers in the portfolio have overarching responsibility for the functions listed in the Administrative Arrangement Orders. Many areas of the department are enabling functions, including Corporate, Economic and Analytical Services, Portfolio Strategic Policy and other areas which support more than one minister.

In relation to day to day administration of functions to support Minister Pyne:

- a) Assistant Minister Andrews assists Minister Pyne in the following areas
 - Anti-Dumping matters
 - Assistance with implementation of the National Innovation and Science Agenda (NISA) measures, including women in STEM and research infrastructure such as the SKA Project
 - Building Codes Board building matters through the Building Ministers' Forum
 - Day to day oversight of Questacon, the National Measurement Institute, the Australian Institute of Marine Science, the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation and the Australian Astronomical Observatory
- b) Assistant Minister Roy assists Minister Pyne in the following areas
 - Innovation matters and roll-out of the relevant NISA measures, including the Incubator Support Programme
 - Intellectual property matters, including IP Australia
 - Day-to-day oversight of innovation programmes, including the Entrepreneurs' Programme

Assistant ministers are also required to assist Cabinet ministers in meeting key stakeholders, representing them at key stakeholder events, profiling key activities and government priorities of the portfolio including the NISA and other government programmes.