

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: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

TOPIC: Contribution to OECD reports and work

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Bushby

QUESTION No.: AI-21

Senator BUSHBY: Okay, I thank you for that, Mr Pettifer. He has attended OECD meetings in Europe on 12 occasions. He was appointed in June 2012 to the chair. I presume that the 12 times he has attended, has not been since he was appointed chair—maybe some of those were part of the process of becoming chair.

How regularly does the department commission and pay for overseas reports from overseas bodies?

Ms Kelly: With the OECD we make a contribution, and then the work program is normally decided by the committee process. There are occasions on which we make an additional so-called voluntary contribution for a particular piece of work that we might give priority to which would not otherwise happen. I would have to take it on notice, but we could give you information about the occasions we have done that.

Senator BUSHBY: Okay, so you have not commissioned any particular reports yourself from, say, the OECD—it is more you helping to bring forward that the OECD might otherwise have done by contributing to the cost.

Ms Kelly: We have actually made some voluntary contributions—

Mr Lawson: If I may, Senator, I need to confirm this with the head of the PM's manufacturing task force secretariat, but my understanding is that we commissioned and paid for a specific piece of work from the OECD for the purposes of the PM's manufacturing task force. So that was not in that nature of a voluntary contribution; it was a commissioned piece of research work.

Senator BUSHBY: Would you mind taking on notice, for the years 2011-12 and 2012-13, what you may have contributed, in any shape or form, to the undertaking of work through the OECD or otherwise for those years—and how much you have contributed, the nature of the work and so forth.

Ms Kelly: Yes, Senator.

ANSWER

Please refer to the below tables for details on contributions to OECD reports and work for the 2011-12 and 2012-13 financial years.

Nature of work undertaken	Cost \$ (GST exclusive)	Financial Year
Contribution to the Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC) – funding allocated through National Training System –	2,200,000	2011-12

Commonwealth Own Purpose Expenditure (NTS-COPE)		
Contribution to PIAAC – funding allocated through NTS-COPE	1,400,000	2012-13
Funding to support research on the topic of innovative entrepreneurship	75,159	2012-13
Contribution to the OECD's Feasibility Study: Phase II of the Assessment of Higher Education Learning Outcomes	131,164	2011-12
Payment to the Australian Council for Educational Research for National Project Manager services for the OECD's Feasibility Study: Phase II of the Assessment of Higher Education Learning Outcomes	334,223	2011-12
Contribution to the OECD Working Party on Nanotechnology (WPN)	20,000	2011-12
Report on Australian Manufacturing in the Global Economy	94,554	2011-12
<p>Provided input/advice to several OECD initiatives and processes. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee on Industry, Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIIE) related (Committee meets twice a year) • Financing High-Growth Firms – the role of angel investors • 119th Session of CIIE (Session on Green Growth and Eco-Innovation) • Science, Technology and Industry (STI) Outlook Questionnaire 2012 administered by Directorate of Science, Technology and Industry • OECD Skills Strategy – early draft report • Education Policy Committee (two meetings per year) • VET Experts Working Group (one meeting per year) • Centre for Educational Research and Innovation 	Nil	2011-12
Work on STI Outlook 2012 report, from 1 December 2011 to 15 March 2012	59,944	2011-12
<p>Provided input, advice and data for several OECD National Experts in Science and Technology Indicators (NESTI) projects and taskforces, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing international guidelines for public sector innovation measurement, including presenting to an expert working group meeting in February 2013 • Australia's investment in intangibles; • Improving international comparability of innovation data; 	10,000	2011-12

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving R&D statistics relating to business R&D statistics and the capitalisation of R&D in the national accounts and revision to the Frascati Manual on R&D statistics • Improving measures and indicators of public support for R&D and innovation 		
<p>Provided input/advice to OECD initiatives and processes on public sector innovation. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Input and advice on the development of an OECD Observatory on Public Sector Innovation • Input and four case studies on aspects on public sector innovation to the OECD Observatory on Public Sector innovation • Input and two case studies for the OECD project “Smart Specialisation Strategies for Innovation-driven Growth” • Provided a review and commentary on the synthesis report, “Innovation Driven Growth in Regions: The Role of Smart Specialisation” 	Nil	2011-12 and 2012-13
<p>Provided policy and procedural direction through the Working Parties on Small and Medium Enterprises and Entrepreneurship (WPSMEE), Globalisation of Industry (WPGI) and Industry Analysis (WPIA)</p>	Nil	2011-12 and 2012-13
<p>As Chair of the CIIE, involvement in work on the New Approaches to Economic Challenges (NAEC) initiative, which is a current flagship initiative of the OECD</p>	Nil	2011-12 and 2012-13
<p>Coordinated cross-departmental and cross-portfolio input and advice to OECD bodies and initiatives on biotechnology and nanotechnology. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working Party on Biotechnology (two meetings per year) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Including its subsidiary Task Force in Industrial Biotechnology • Working Party on Nanotechnology, including policy and public attitude work streams 	Nil	2011-12 and 2012-13
<p>Provided input/advice to several OECD initiatives and processes. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CIIE related (Committee meets twice a year) • Innovation Policy Platform • Input to the “policies for Seed and Early Stage Finance Project” • Input to the “Innovative Entrepreneurship” project • OECD Skills Strategy – final draft report • Education Policy Committee (two meetings per year) • VET Experts Working Group (one meeting per 	Nil	2012-13

<p>year)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centre for Educational Research and Innovation • Provided drafting suggestions to guide development of the OECD's Education Policy Outlook: Australia 		
<p>Designing and running a workshop on aligning the Policy, Practice and Research of Community Engagement on Nanotechnology to feed into updating the OECD Working Party on Nanotechnology's report "Planning Guide for Public Engagement and Outreach in Nanotechnology"</p>	Nil	2012-13
<p>Contributing an analysis paper on Commercialisation Australia for the OECD project "Benchmarking programmes for high-growth firms"</p>	Nil	2012-13