

**Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio  
Additional Estimates Hearing 2012-13  
13 February 2013

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

**TOPIC:** Australian Research Committee – Strategic Research Priorities

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Mason

**QUESTION No.:** AI-83

According to page 83 of the National Research Investment Plan, the Australian Research Committee will develop new Strategic Research Priorities (SRPs) to replace the existing National Research Priorities (NRPs).

- a) Will the inclusion of the SRPs in the National Research Investment Plan necessitate a separate level of assessment for each new research funding program proposal?
- b) What weighting will the SRPs carry in the allocation of funding?
- c) Will some SRPs be given more weight than other SRPs?
- d) When will the SRPs be finalised by the Australian Research Committee?
- e) Will the humanities, arts and social sciences be reflected in the SRPs?

**ANSWER**

The strategic research priorities and a proposed process for their implementation are currently being developed by the Australian Research Committee.

The Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences are being considered as part of the process.

The development of the strategic research priorities and their implementation, including any influence on budgetary or policy changes, is subject to consideration by Government in the second quarter of 2013.