

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio  
Budget Estimates Hearing 2010-11  
31 May 2010

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

**TOPIC:** Information Technology (IT) Supplier Advocate

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Alan Eggleston

**QUESTION No.:** BI-88

What has been the level of consultation regarding the needs of the IT Supplier Advocate?  
(*IT Supplier Advocate Named*, Australian Financial Review, 27 April 2010).

**ANSWER**

Prior to the appointment of Mr Don Easter as the inaugural IT Supplier Advocate, the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research consulted with industry, government agencies, industry associations and the Information Technology Industry Innovation Council in order to shape the scope of the IT supplier advocate role and to elicit possible advocate nominations.

In fulfilling his IT Supplier Advocate appointment, Mr Easter is engaged in ongoing consultations with interested stakeholders. He has received positive feedback on the development of a strategy to increase the competitiveness of local IT suppliers and raise the visibility of local IT capabilities to customers in the government IT procurement market.