

**Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio  
Budget Estimates Hearing 2012-13  
28 and 29 May 2012

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

**TOPIC:** National Measurement Institute - staffing

**REFERENCE:** Question on Notice (Hansard, Tuesday 29 May 2012, page 34)

**QUESTION No.:** BI-71

**Senator Di Natali:** What proportion of funds in the total budget does the public awareness and community engagement section get?

**Mr Chesworth:** In relation to the funding that I just mentioned, it is about a fifty-fifty split.

**Senator Di Natali:** And the policy section? It is roughly fifty-fifty between those two sections?

**Mr Chesworth:** Roughly, that is right.

**Senator Di Natali:** Can I have a sense of the scale of the [National Enabling Technologies Strategy] operation? How many staff are employed at the National Measurement Institute?

**Dr Fisk:** Senator, to give an exact number, I would have to take that on notice. It is approximately 30 staff associated with the NETS activities.

**ANSWER**

The National Measurement Institute (NMI) has a total of about 500 staff, of which 13.5 full time equivalent staff are funded under the National Enabling Technologies Strategy (NETS). This core group of staff that work on NETS activities leverage technical expertise and capability from across NMI to most effectively and quickly develop nanometrology and biometrology capabilities. The pool of staff that contribute a proportion of their time, expertise and knowledge to supporting NETS activity is somewhat larger (about 30), reflecting the collaborative interdependent research and development approach required for developing new measurement standards and services.