

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2010-11
20 October 2010

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

TOPIC: Inspiring Australia Report

REFERENCE: Written Question –Senator Colbeck

QUESTION No.: SI-73

In the Government's election policy, it was outlined that \$21 million would be spent on implementing the recommendations of the Inspiring Australia report on science communication activities. Can you please provide an outline of how that money will be allocated, and when you expect delivery of the program to begin?

ANSWER

The \$21 million over three years, announced as part of the Science for Australia's Future statement, will fund four key areas: recognising achievement (through continuation of the Prime Minister's Prizes for Science); bringing science and research to people across the country (through continuation of National Science Week); unlocking Australia's full potential (through program engagement, events in cities and in regional and remote areas); and connecting with mainstream media and new media to communicate science issues and achievements. The allocation of the funding to each of these four areas is currently under consideration and will take into account consultation mechanisms. It is anticipated that the delivery of the program will begin in 2011-12.