

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

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

**TOPIC:** National Maths, Science Education and Industry Advisor

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Bushby

**QUESTION No.:** SI-115

1. What is the basic purpose of the newly-advertised National Maths & Science Education & Industry Advisor position? And how will it differ, in practical day-to-day terms, from the Chief Scientist's role?
2. Who will sit on the selection panel for this position?
3. Does the salary range include travel? And, if not, what is the Department's estimate of how much will be spent on this person's travel, or at least how regularly they will be travelling and where?
4. Is it a new position within the public service, funded by new money? Or has it been financed by savings - and, if so, from which specific part of the organisation?

**ANSWER**

1. The role of the National Mathematics & Science Education & Industry Advisor is a fixed term appointment for four years specifically to champion the importance of mathematics and statistics, science and engineering within education and industry. The advisor will sit within the Office of the Chief Scientist and will report to the Chief Scientist.
2. Professor Ian Chubb, Chief Scientist for Australia  
Ms Anne Baly, A/g Deputy Secretary, DIISRTE  
Ms Katharine Campbell, A/g Head of Division, Science and Research, DIISRTE  
Dr Kim Ritman, Chief Scientist, Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry ( representing the Australian Public Service Commission)
3. The Advisor will be employed at Senior Executive Service Band 1 level and remunerated in line with DIISRTE policy. The salary range does not include travel expenses, which will be funded through the operational budget allocated to support the activities of the function. It is anticipated that the Advisor will travel within Australia to engage with stakeholders within the constraints of the allocated budget.
4. The IISRTE portfolio delivered net savings to the Budget bottom line in the 2012-13 Budget, fully offsetting all spending measures. The funding for the DIISRTE component of the Advisor was not directly linked to a specific offset. It is noted for information that the DEEWR component of funding for the Advisor was partially offset by the redirection of \$4.5 million

over two years from existing Commonwealth discretionary funding under the Smarter Schools National Partnership for Improving Teacher Quality.