

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

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

TOPIC: Operational CRCs

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 17 October 2012, page 66)

QUESTION No.: SI-28

Senator MASON: Ms Baly, can you tell the committee how many operational CRCs there are currently. How many are there?

Ms Baly: There are 37.

Senator MASON: And how does this compare with the number of operational CRCs at the end of the final full year of the previous, coalition government—the year 2006, I suppose.

Ms Baly: The numbers have bounced around a bit. In 2006-07 there were 58 and in 2007-08 there were 58. In 2008-09 there were 48; in 2009-10 there were 50; in 2010-11, 42; and in 2011-12, 44.

Senator MASON: Can I ask what proportion of the government's total—

Senator Chris Evans: They are funded differentially, aren't they?

Ms Baly: They are funded differentially, so the number is not necessarily the whole story.

Senator Chris Evans: You cannot divide the budget by the number of—

Senator MASON: I am moving there, Minister. No, I accept that they are funded differentially. What proportion of the government's total expenditure on R&D does the CRC program now comprise? Do you know that? And what would it be 2006?

Ms Baly: We would have to take that one on notice.

ANSWER

The CRC Program accounts for 1.7 per cent of the government's total funding of \$8.9 billion¹ for science, research and innovation in 2012-13. It accounted for 2.9 per cent of the government's total funding of \$6.6 billion¹ for science, research and innovation in 2006-07.

This information is sourced from the Science, Research and Innovation Budget Tables at <http://www.innovation.gov.au/AboutUs/Budget/Documents/SRIBudgetTables2012-13.pdf>.

¹ GST exclusive