

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: CSIRO
Output Group: CSIRO

DEST Question No. E745_05

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question:

How many staff now work in CSIRO in Business development and Commercialisation roles, both directly for BD&C as well as in Divisions or other units?

How does this figure compare with equivalent totals in February 2002, 2003 and 2004?

Answer:

CSIRO has provided the following response.

Business Development and Commercialisation - Staff numbers BD&C

Across CSIRO, the level of business development and commercialisation effort represented 3% of CSIRO's full time equivalent staff complement in 2003/04.

At the end of March 2005, the staff of Corporate BD&C group was at the level of 47.5 effective full time units (EFTs). This figure includes persons employed, in either full or fractional time effort, on business development and commercialisation activities and general secretarial/administrative assistance, and also includes the corporate legal group (which serves all corporate legal requirements, not just business development and commercialisation activities) and the business improvement group (which works on internal business processes).

Enterprise –wide data on the number of business development and commercialisation staff (in divisions and other units as well as corporate) is collated as part of the CSIRO Research Commercialisation Survey, which is collected on a Financial Year basis. Comparative figures on the staff effort in the CSIRO Group in business development and commercialisation activities for the last three financial years are shown in the table below. In addition to business development and commercialisation staff, these figures include staff effort of Divisional research management and scientific staff on business development and commercialisation activities.

Financial Year	Divisional EFTs	Corporate EFTs	Total EFTs
2001/02	129	24	153
2002/03	134.7	50.6	185.3
2003/04	139.9	56	195.9

Although the business development and commercialisation effort has increased in both divisions and corporately during the past 3 years, nevertheless it remains a low proportion of CSIRO's total staff numbers.