

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2006-2007 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 3
Output Group: 3.1 - Research Infrastructure

DEST Question No. E968_07

Senator Carr asked on 14 February 2007, EWRE Hansard page 99-100.

Question:

Research Quality Framework

Senator CARR— So what are the list of issues yet to be resolved with regard to the implementation of this RQF?...

Senator CARR— But if you would like to take that on notice, I would be delighted to have the full and comprehensive list of unresolved issues with regard to the RQF.

Dr Arthur—What we can certainly provide you with is issues that we have identified now. As with any complex implementation task, there will be issues that will arise as we go through that we have not been able to specify now. We can certainly provide you with an indication of the significant issues that are there.

Answer:

Research Quality Framework

DEST has commenced implementing the Research Quality Framework (RQF) following the Government's endorsement of the RQF on 14 November 2006.

Significant issues are being addressed by DEST in consultation with the higher education sector and other key stakeholders. These are:

- how research impact will be assessed by Panels and the relationship between quality and impact assessments;
- discipline-specific guidance for researchers;
- the management of classified, culturally sensitive or otherwise confidential research outputs;
- how discipline-specific metrics will be used in the assessment process; and
- detailed requirements for researcher eligibility.