

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 3

Output Group: 3.2 – Assistance for science collaboration and innovation

DEST Question No. E134_04

Senator Carr asked on 4 June 2003, EWRE Hansard page 364

Question:

What are the costings involved in the \$2.9 million that has been appropriated for this structural coming together? Do you have a costings on this? Where does the \$2.9 million come from? Did you not provide any costings for that? Dr Harmer, how often is it that you find budgets with a figure of nearly \$3 million allocated to agencies without any costings associated with them?

Answer:

Costing for funding of Affiliation

The provision of funding to facilitate the affiliation between the Australian Institute of Marine Science and James Cook University was decided by Ministers with a view to establishing a sound foundation for the joint venture. It was recognised that a range of costs could be incurred in developing the joint venture arrangements and a one-off supplementary allocation to AIMS of \$2.9 million in 2003-04 was determined to be an appropriate provision for these possible costs. Funding of this nature is not amenable to detailed costings and the use of the funds will be settled in discussion with the parties.