

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: CSIRO
Output Group: CSIRO

DEST Question No. E232_04

Senator Carr asked on 4 June 2003.

Question:

In your press release of 13 May, you spoke of “our own major shift in resources into this area.”

Can you detail what shifts have occurred, how much money is involved, from where it has been taken, where it has been directed to, as well as identifying positions redeployed or made redundant in all divisions affected by these transfers?

Answer:

CSIRO has provided the following response.

Flagships

See E230_04 re the shift in financial resources. CSIRO’s internal funding was provided by reallocating 10% of each Division’s baseline appropriation to high priority areas. These included, but were not restricted to, the Flagships; other areas of high priority including the Emerging Science Areas and various cross-Divisional programs also received funding from the reallocation.

It is important to note that as CSIRO continues to refocus and realign its core research portfolio some new areas will open up while others will close, with corresponding resource shift implications. Also, the Enterprise Agreement negotiated last year, and the associated salary increases have some financial consequences. Finally, the redistribution of monies to fund the Flagships and Emerging Science Areas will result in some project changes and resource shifts.

Over the coming 2003/04 year, CSIRO anticipates potential staff redundancies to be in the order of 250, but with new staff appointments, total staff numbers are expected to remain relatively constant. The staff impacts of change will be uneven across CSIRO Divisions. Definitive outcomes for each Division cannot be confirmed at this stage until the portfolio of research projects is realigned, staffing contributions to Flagships are finalised and redeployment options are exhausted for any potentially redundant staff.