

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: 3

Output Group: – 3.1 Research Infrastructure

DEST Question No. E025_05

Senator Carr asked on 2 June 2004, EWRE Hansard page 47:

Question:

What does it cost across government to administer the Commonwealth research programme and how much does that compare with the ARC's administrative costs?

Answer:

Cost of administration

The cost of administration incurred by the ARC has been provided by Dr Walker of the ARC at the June Senate Estimates hearings (EWRE Hansard page 46), while the comparative administrative costs incurred by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NH&MRC) to administer its peer-reviewed funding programme have been provided previously by the ARC in response to a Senate Estimates Question on Notice at the February 2004 hearings, Question Number: E696_04.

This is the closest comparison to the cost of administering ARC programmes that can be made. Overall information on the comparison of the cost of administering other research programmes by the various Commonwealth portfolios and agencies is not meaningful because of the variety of allocative mechanisms used, for example, formula driven, peer-review and open tender processes.