

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE – QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: CSIRO
Output Group: CSIRO

DEST Question No. E214_06

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question:

In its Strategic Plan, CSIRO forecast revenue from Government appropriations of \$612 million for 2005-06 and \$632 million for 2006-07 (\$1,244 million in total).

Instead the Forward Estimates in the Budget show that CSIRO is forecast to receive \$1,202,125,000, an underspend of \$41,875,000.

Has the Government informed CSIRO of any reductions to public spending?

Answer:

CSIRO has provided the following response.

Revenue Forecast – reductions to public spending

The Government has not informed CSIRO of any reductions to public spending.

The major items producing the divergence of \$42m from the target financial scenario in the Strategic Plan are:

- 1) The transfer of National Measurement Laboratory to the National Measurement Institute (\$24m);
- 2) Timing in the ramp up of funding to the Flagship programs (\$15m); and
- 3) Indexation and other minor measures (\$3m).

CSIRO's Flagship program has been planned within total budgeted resources. This includes funds available from government, redeployed funds within CSIRO and external earnings from Flagship projects.

See answer to E166_06 for a reconciliation between Strategic Plan revenue targets and the Portfolio Budget Statement budgets and Forward Estimates.