

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: CSIRO
Output Group: CSIRO

DEST Question No. E467_07

Senator Wong provided in writing.

Question:

31 May 2006, EWRE, p.13:

Senator WONG—*Without trying to put too fine a point on it, we have your office with annual costs of over \$1 million, with various components of that remuneration being housing, travel et cetera. Do you think the public and the organisation are getting value for money?*

Dr Garrett—*I think it must come back to what we are delivering. Looking at what this organisation is achieving, we have had 12 independent external reviews of our divisions in the last two years—independent international panels looking at the quality of our science and the impact of what we deliver—and we are shortly to release a flagship performance review, a copy of which we will obviously make sure you get at a very early stage. We want to be judged by the outputs of that program.*

Why was each review undertaken?

Answer:

CSIRO has provided the following response.

Divisional Reviews

Over the 2004-07 triennium all CSIRO Divisions will be reviewed as part of a formal programme of Science Assessment Reviews to assess the quality and vitality of CSIRO's science base and scientific outputs.

This programme is a commitment of the Triennium Funding Agreement and is in line with the principles of the proposed Australian Government's Research Quality Framework.